

The **SPORTS** **PINK**

55p

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Cherries' win keep them on the FA Cup trail – see P4

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PREMIER LEAGUE IS BOOMING

See pages 8/9



Defender's goal sinks Saints...



AGGER-IVY!

SO CLOSE: Saints keeper Paulo Gazzaniga just fails to reach Daniel Agger's winning header.

Picture: Matt Watson

Liverpool v Saints match report and pictures – pages 2-5

PREMIER LGE



QPR need Houdini act
See pages 12/13

CRICKET



Hampshire topics
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NON-LEAGUE



Six pages of latest news
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NOSTALGIA



Scare are they now?
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Saints Spotlight

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LIVERPOOL 1 SAINTS 0: Battling Saints are

SINGLE STRIKE SPOIL ANFIELD



ABOVE: Raheem Sterling is crowded out by Morgan Schneiderlin, left, and Luke Shaw. PICTURES: Matt Watson.

Adam Leitch

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CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER

SAINTS' four match unbeaten run came to an end as they were defeated 1-0 at Liverpool.

Daniel Agger headed home the only goal of the game two minutes before half time to give the Reds victory at Anfield.

Liverpool were totally dominant in the first half and could have been more than one up at half time but the second period was much more even, albeit that Saints didn't create a clear cut chance throughout.

Rickie Lambert was making a first visit as a player to Liverpool, the club he supported as a boy, and took the first opportunity to get in a shot towards The Kop as, after just three minutes, he sliced a right

footed effort from 30 yards out that curled wide.

Liverpool had a first sight of goal on nine minutes when Jose Fonte's header fell to Jonjo Shelvey on the edge of the area but he volleyed into the ground, which removed all power and made it easy for Paulo Gazzaniga.

Moments later Glen Johnson could only help the ball across the six-yard box after being found by Luis Suarez's low near post cross.

Liverpool were keeping the Saints defence on their toes with Shelvey and Raheem Sterling often switching wings.

Saints had come under short spells of pressure and hadn't created much but would have been pretty happy with their start to a tough game as they restricted Liverpool and dealt with the danger when they threatened to break through.

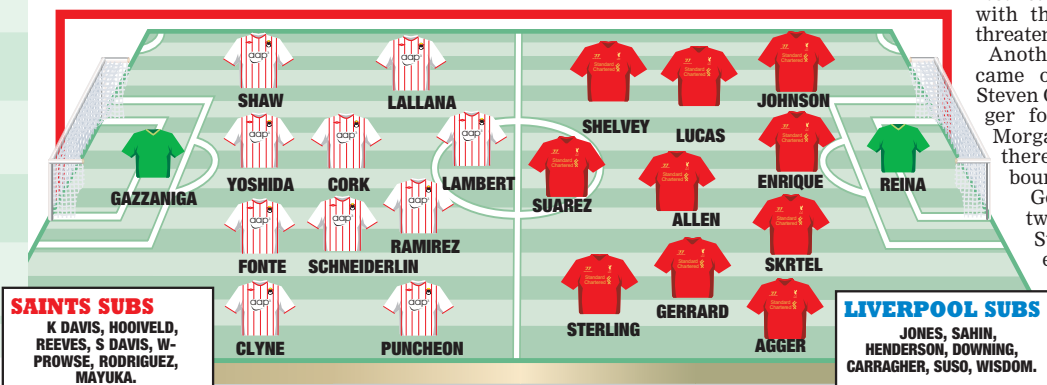
Another example of that came on 20 minutes when Steven Gerrard pulled the trigger for the first time but Morgan Schneiderlin was there to block his goal bound effort.

Gerrard had another go two minutes later after Suarez's lay off on the edge of the area but slashed wide.

Johnson tried his luck moments later as he cut in from the right and hit a left footed shot that Gazzaniga was able to gather at the near post.

Liverpool were turning the screw on Saints a little and the young stopper had to be sharp to get down to his right to push out a shot from Shelvey.

Gazzaniga was in action again on 26 minutes, this time



NIGEL ADKINS named an unchanged team for the fifth game in a row as Saints took on Liverpool at Anfield. With his side unbeaten in the last four it was hardly a major surprise in terms of

TEAM NEWS
the outfield options. However, there had been plenty of speculation over whether he may opt to make another switch in goal.

Paulo Gazzaniga's latest error against Norwich had ultimately cost Saints two points in midweek but Adkins stuck by the 20-year-old and handed him another start.

READ THE ADAM RANT COLUMN ON PAGE 15

Saints Spotlight

sunk by brilliant first-half header from Agger

ENOUGH TO EXPERIENCE

blocking low down from Suarez after a one two with Joe Allen.

The Uruguayan was appealing for a penalty as Jack Cork had tugged at his shorts as he strove to get to the ball but the referee was unmoved.

Saints were lucky to get away without conceding on the half hour mark as a long kick from Pepe Reina and a weak header from Fonte saw Suarez closing in.

Gazzaniga was able to just block and the ball bounced off Maya Yoshida and went wide.

Shortly afterwards Gazzaniga was warned for time wasting with the Anfield crowd on his back for how long he was spending over taking goal kicks.

Lambert had a rare effort for Saints, fizzing a free kick just wide before Liverpool came even closer.

Shelvey unleashed a pile driver of a swerving right footed shot which beat Gazzaniga but smashed against the inside of the post and came back out.

Liverpool were left wondering if their dominance was ever going to pay off when Suarez hit the bar from a free kick just outside the area on the right side.

But they did in the follow up.

Johnson picked up the ball on the right, cut onto his left foot and crossed to the penalty spot where Daniel Agger was unmarked and steered a fine header into the top corner for 1-0 two minutes before half time.

Lambert tried an audacious 40-yard shot which Reina was alert to turn behind before half time but when the whistle went Saints were just one down.

Saints started the second half with a bit of purpose and Jason Puncheon saw an early shot deflected behind.

But the game died a bit of a death.

The goal had taken away Liverpool's urgency. Saints were in the game more but still restricted to shots from distance rather than really creating anything particularly threatening.

Liverpool were certainly not playing to the level at which they were in the first half but knew another goal would seal the win, but failure to get it could lead to a nervy finale.

Jose Enrique almost got through on 68 minutes but was stopped by a late block from Luke Shaw.

Liverpool made their first change a minute later with Jordan Henderson replacing Joe Allen.

Saints responded with Steven Davis coming on for Cork.

Martin Skrtel was first to meet a Shelvey corner on 74 minutes but flicked his header across goal and wide.

Enrique let fly on 77 minutes with a shot from the left side of the area that forced Gazzaniga to stay strong at the near post to save for really the first time in the half.

Saints made a second switch moments later with Jay Rodriguez on for Puncheon.

Gerrard got to the by-line and cut back a cross that went just over – but the linesman had spot-

ted Suarez had used his hand and he was duly booked.

As the game moved into the final ten minutes the challenge for Saints was to create a first good chance of the game – and take it.

It was in fact Gazzaniga who had the next save to make, getting down to his right to save from Enrique's low 20 yard drive with Yoshida there to mop up.

Liverpool made a late change to try and ensure they held on to the three points with Jamie Carragher coming on for Lucas.

Suarez had one last chance for Liverpool in stoppage time but he dragged his shot across goal wide of the far post before Gerrard got a late booking for a foul on Rodriguez.

None of that really mattered though as when the final whistle went it was Liverpool who had secured the three points.



RAM RAID: Gaston Ramirez climbs high, above, and gives chase, below.



Saints game plan fails to pay off

NIGEL Nigel Adkins said Saints stuck to the game plan at Liverpool – but just couldn't get a goal to get something out of it.

Daniel Agger's header two minutes before half time proved to be the difference between the sides but Saints never really created a chance.

"Obviously we're disappointed in respect that we haven't got anything from the game," said Adkins.

"We've come away from home on a good run of form of late and I think it's fair to say that Liverpool's movement was very good and we couldn't get a grip of the football.

"We conceded a goal just on half time and if we could have got to half time at 0-0 that would have been really pleasing.

"It was a free header in the penalty area that gave them a 1-0 lead.

"We've come away from home and adapted because we're an attack minded side, we didn't have anywhere near as much possession of the ball as we normally do and that's probably credit to Liverpool in that respect.

"We had to adapt our shape to make sure we stayed in the game and play on the counter until the last 10-15 minutes and give ourselves an opportunity to press it and see if we can get something from it."

Saints Spotlight

Cherries on the cup trail

FA CUP

CHERRIES booked their place in the third round of the FA Cup for the first time in eight years with victory over Carlisle today.

Goals from Wes Fogden, Eunan O'Kane and Marc Pugh eased Eddie Howe's men to a comfortable victory at Brunton Park with Mark Beck replying for the hosts.

Fogden, O'Kane, Shwan Jalal, Steve Cook and Brett Pitman were drafted in as boss Howe made no fewer than five changes to the Cherries starting line-up.

Goalkeeper Jalal replaced David James, who was rested, while defender Cook came in for skipper Miles Addison, who was ruled out due to injury.

O'Kane came in for suspended Harry Arter in central midfield and Fogden and Pitman replaced Josh McQuoid and Matt Tubbs, who both dropped to the bench.

Jalal pulled off an early double save to prevent Matty Robson from firing the Cumbrians ahead, the Cherries goalkeeper thwarting the midfielder at his near post.

Robson then failed to hit the target with the goal gaping from 10 yards before Jalal gathered a swerving free-kick from Dave Symington.

Cherries opened the scoring on 30 minutes when Fogden took aim from the edge of the box, his strike appearing to take a deflection to deceive Carlisle goalkeeper Adam Collin.

O'Kane quickly doubled Cherries' lead, blasting home an unstoppable right-foot drive following good work from Marc Pugh and Fogden.

Chances were at a premium in the second half, with Lewis Grabban seeing an effort blocked after 55 minutes.

Beck threw Carlisle a lifeline when he climbed at the far post to head home a Jon Paul McGovern free-kick in the 72nd minute after Jalal failed to gather.

But Jalal atoned when he dived full length to his left to keep out Beck's low drive.

However, man of the match Pugh deservedly had the last word when he completed the scoring from close range following a cross from Simon Francis.

Defeat mars a Reds-letter day

SAINTS' return to the Premier League has not been without its downside for the club's supporters.

The joy of promotion inevitably means increased ticket prices, as well as two new kits to be tempted with and a lot more losing than the fans have been used to for the previous three seasons.

But there are many great points to possessing a place in England's top flight.

Visiting Anfield, the home of Liverpool, is one of those.

It has been almost eight years since Saints were last able to make the trip to this grand and famous old theatre of football.

The stadium may have aged far beyond its best years, but it remains one of the finest places to watch a game in Europe – those that weren't consigned to the restricted view seats anyway.

While the Saints fans took to their Football League tour with gusto, these are the occasions that the fans and everyone else associated with the club really relish, even if the result went against them this afternoon.

It is difficult not to feel a tingle down the spine when the Kop, along with the rest of the ground, stand as one to sing "You'll Never Walk Alone" before kick-off.

For Saints manager Nigel Adkins, who was at Liverpool as a schoolboy, and Rickie Lambert, a lifelong fan of the club, walking out of the tunnel in front of a 44,525-strong crowd must have been the stuff of dreams.

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SPORTS REPORTER

A little over two years ago, when he was still in charge of Scunthorpe United, directing games at Glanford Park, the thought of standing in the technical area at Anfield as a Premier League boss must have seemed a distant dream.

But Birkenhead-born Adkins has impressively earned his right to be there, after leading the club to back-

to-back promotions.

He saluted the travelling fans in the opening minutes, as they sang "One Nigel Adkins" to him.

He probably won't ever say it, but to have heard that chant sung in his honour at Anfield would no doubt have meant a lot to him.

Lambert, a man who is Liverpool through and through, also richly deserved his place here this afternoon.

His goals have been so vital in powering Saints back up through the leagues, and to finally step out

onto the pitch in Merseyside would have been the realisation of a life-long dream.

Lambert was clearly desperate for a goal.

He went close in the first half with a couple of long-range efforts, notably in added time when his dipping volley from distance nearly caught out Reds keeper Pepe Reina.

It wasn't to be for the Saints striker, though.

But hopefully he, Adkins, and Southampton, will get another bite at the cherry next season.



LOW POINT: Saints have to watch as Liverpool celebrate their winner.

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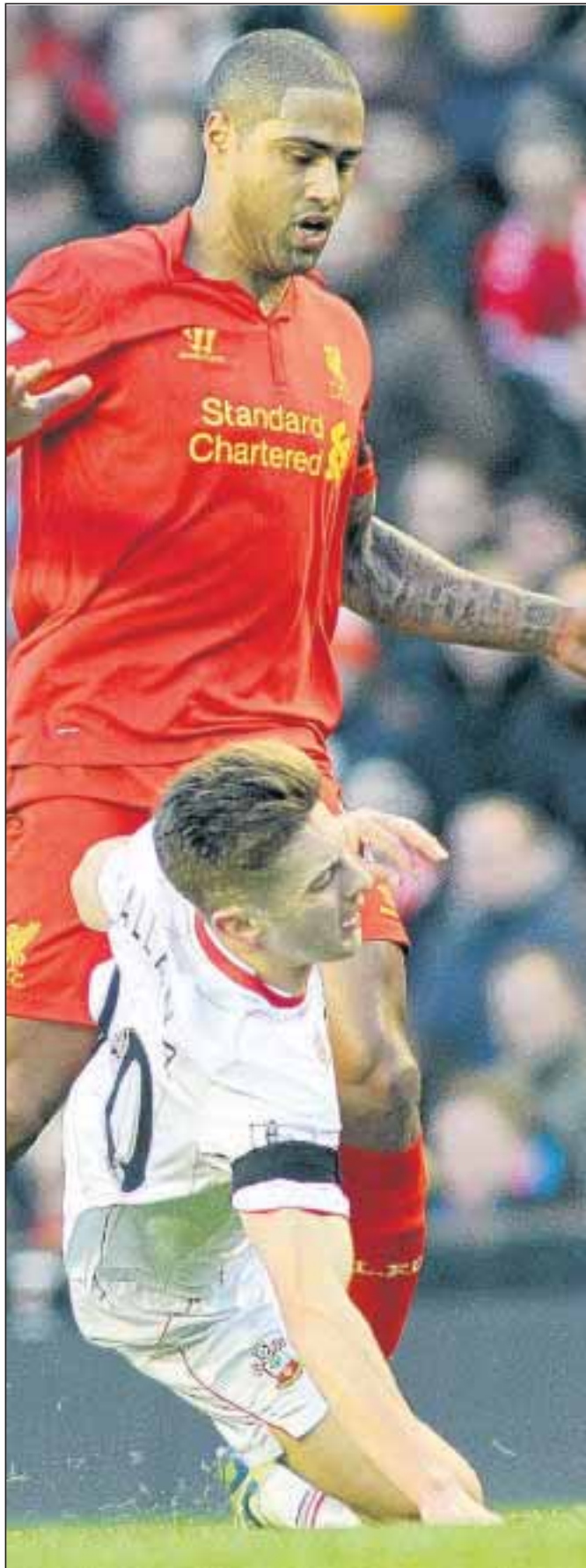
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Saints Spotlight



STRUGGLE: Adam Lallana is fouled by Liverpool's Glen Johnson.



FOOT IN: Jack Cork, right, makes his presence felt..



HOLDING FIRM: Maya Yoshida holds off Liverpool's Luis Suarez.

Blues are hammered

■ PREMIER LEAGUE

WEST HAM piled more pressure on Chelsea boss Rafael Benitez as they stormed back from a goal behind to bag a 3-1 Barclays Premier League victory over the Blues in the lunchtime kick-off at Upton Park.

Benitez faced more evident signs of dissent from the Chelsea fans.

Juan Mata had given the visitors a 13th-minute lead but the Hammers' comeback was inspired by Carlton Cole, who headed a 63rd-minute equaliser then set up Mohamed Dione to fire the hosts in front with just four minutes left.

Hammers substitute Modibo Maiga put the gloss on his side's win and added more woe for Benitez with an injury time third.

The worries also mounted for Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger who saw his side outplayed by Swansea at the Emirates, two late goals from Michu giving Michael Laudrup's men a 2-0 win.

Manchester City leapfrogged Manchester United back to the top of the table but only on goal difference after they were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw against impressive Everton at the Etihad Stadium.

Marouane Fellaini's eighth goal of the season had put David Moyes' men in front in the first half before Carlos Tevez equalised from the penalty spot two minutes before the break after Fellaini was adjudged to have felled Edin Dzeko in the box.

Harry Redknapp's home debut in charge of Queens Park Rangers ended in a 1-1 draw against Aston Villa at Loftus Road.

Brett Holman rammed the visitors in front with just eight minutes on the clock before Jamie Mackie equalised with an 18th minute header.

Jermain Defoe scored twice as a superb second half show from Tottenham saw the visitors canter to a 3-0 win over Fulham at Craven Cottage.

Sandro put Spurs ahead when he caught out Fulham keeper Mark Schwarzer from long range in the 55th minute, before Defoe took over, sliding home from a set-up by Gylfi Sigurdsson on 72, and completing his side's win five minutes later.

Substitute Dean Whitehead snatched a 75th minute winner for Stoke at The Hawthorns as West Brom fell to their second successive defeat. A dismal game sprang to life in the final quarter hour after Whitehead – a 54th minute replacement for Charlie Adam, poked home from a ball into the box by Michael Kightly to give the

SEE MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO FOR FULL MATCH ANALYSIS

Premiership Spotlight



Get us out of this mess – Harry plea

HARRY Redknapp has told QPR's players it is their responsibility to rescue the club from Barclays Premier League relegation.

Rangers sit at the foot of the table, eight points adrift of safety, and were seeking their first victory of the season when they hosted Aston Villa this weekend.

Redknapp has ruled out embarking on a spending spree in January, instead demanding that the current squad start delivering.

"They are the ones that are here, they're the ones that got us into this mess and they're the ones that are going to get us out of it," he said.

"And they can do it. I feel there is enough here for us to do it. That's the situation we are in.

"I won't spend our way out of trouble. If we can get some points, who knows maybe in January we'll make a loan or two if need be."



Harry's time with Saints has been airbrushed out of history ...



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CALMING IT: Mark Clattenburg officiating during the Saints versus Norwich match.

Time for Blues to say sorry

THE Norwich game in mid-week saw Saints refereed by Mark Clattenburg, almost the forgotten man of football at the moment.

Forgotten, as in I'm pretty sure someone has forgotten to apologise to the man over unproven, unfounded accusations of racism.

It would seem that, as Elton John once said, sorry seems to be the hardest word as to date Chelsea still haven't actually said sorry to the man for falsely accusing him of racism.

A statement from Chelsea read: "The club regrets not having given more consideration before issuing a statement on the evening of Sunday, 28 October."

The statement continued: "The club also regrets the subsequent impact the intense media scrutiny had on Mark Clattenburg and his family."

In my book, that isn't an apology. Mark Clattenburg may have given Saints nothing on Wednesday, but surely he

deserves an apology?

As a referee his career could very much have been over had any of the mud that Chelsea thrown stuck.

It was irresponsible and crass and the fact that a top club cannot bring itself to just simply apologise brings shame on the game in this country.

On the subject of Chelsea, you'll excuse me if I get a bit excited this time of year.

It's only two more Chelsea managers until Christmas...

Premiership Spotlight

AS weeks in the Premiership go, these past few ones have been good ones for Saints.

There were impressive wins against Newcastle and QPR and solid, if unspectacular, draws against Norwich and Swansea.

They have given us a solid springboard to get out of the relegation zone.

In short, it's been a good time for Nigel Adkins. If it's been good for Adkins it was catastrophic for Mark Hughes at QPR who paid the price for a disastrous start to the season.

Without a win all season, no one can be surprised that Hughes was sacked.

What was surprising was that the QPR board asked Hughes to oversee a game with him knowing he would be sacked no matter what the outcome was.

That was nothing short of scandalous.

It came as no surprise then that Harry Redknapp was announced as QPR's new manager within 24 hours of Hughes' sacking.

The corpse was barely lukewarm and the new king was in place.

All hail the new king.

You can't accuse QPR of acting with any class in this instance, can you?

The papers were, of course, all full of the news and one paper in particular ran with the news of Redknapp getting the job, stating all the pluses and minuses of his appointment.

They listed, in the plus column, his achievements at Portsmouth and Tottenham.

But in the negative column, not one mention of his time at Saints.

You would think that if you're writing an arti-



cle about the suitability of a manager to save a club from relegation, then the fact that he took one club down would be relevant.

It's as if Redknapp's time at Southampton has been completely removed from football history.

Again, it shows the rather bizarre nature of football management and the media's reaction to it.

Hughes is a manager whose reputation is



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Mark Hughes

patchy to say the least.

His one achievement is to have Wales look less inept than usual and yet he is constantly in employment.

Why?

Should Nigel Adkins falter in the next few weeks, then the performances against Newcastle and QPR will quickly be forgotten and it won't take long before the rumours start again.

What are the odds that, if Adkins is sacked, that Hughes would be mentioned as a possible replacement?

It's more than possible and probably mentioned by the same people who forgot Harry Redknapp's disastrous reign at St Mary's and touted him as a potential manager here.

All you need to know about Redknapp can be found in the fact that he would "officially" takeover after the Manchester United game.

Didn't fancy that one on your CV then, Harry?

I won't go on about Redknapp, I've wasted far too much column space on the man over the years.

But for the life of me I cannot understand why he is held in such high esteem.

Yes, his CV shows impressive stints at Portsmouth and Tottenham but it also shows impressive stints with clubs that could throw money at a problem.

If Redknapp was so good, why did Tottenham let him go?

The answer?

Is it because, unlike Pompey, they saw an unsustainable structure being built up under Redknapp and the realisation that under him they had to qualify for the Champions League year in year out to be viable?

Redknapp surrounds himself with good coaches and likes to talk.

You doubt me?

Then why did the FA appoint Roy Hodgson over a man who, on paper, was a far better bet? Redknapp and QPR deserve each other.

Can YOUR club benefit from a cash windfall ...?

HAMPSHIRE and Dorset grassroots football clubs are set to receive a helping hand from the country's largest sports charity.

The Football Foundation have revealed that £2.1m of funding from The FA is to be made available to help the development of grassroots clubs.

Grassroots football clubs from every region will be able to access grants of up to £5,000 through the Foundation's *Grow the Game* scheme.

Grow the Game funding increases participation in our national game by helping clubs to provide opportunities for new players, or training volunteers to support new players and teams.

The Foundation is urging local clubs that are interested to make sure they apply before the window for applications closes on Friday, December 21.

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "*Grow the Game* has become one of the Foundation's most popular schemes.

"This additional funding provided by The FA is excellent news for grassroots clubs across the country that are seeking to start new teams and get their volunteer coaches qualified with FA coaching badges.

"*Grow the Game* funding has made a huge difference to the local grassroots game.

The 871 *Grow the Game* grants that we have awarded to clubs to date is enabling them to create 3,791 new league-affiliated football teams, meaning that 72,872 new players will take up the game regularly.

"It is also funding 10,915 new qualifications or courses for grassroots volunteers."

Take advantage

"The new application window that opened on November 5 is a chance for more clubs from every region to take advantage."

The FA's Senior National Game Development Manager, Peter Ackerley, commented: "The FA is committed to football for all and our £2.1m grant to the *Grow the Game* programme will make a real difference to grassroots clubs and their volunteers across the country.

"The FA has invested over £100m into the Football Foundation over the last decade.

"It's an exciting time to be involved in the grassroots game with the opening of St George's Park and the positive changes to small-sided youth football all contributing to a bright future."

Launched in 2000, the Football Foundation is the country's largest sports charity.

It is funded by the Premier League, The FA, and the Government (via Sport England) and has awarded around 8,000 grants worth £420m towards improving grassroots sport.

The Foundation is advising clubs that are interested in applying for this funding to visit

www.footballfoundation.org.uk/apply/grow-the-game/ and contact their local County FA (<http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/apply/key-contacts/cdms/>) to find out more.

Saints beaten by Royals



SAINTS players were beaten by Hampshire Cricketers in their annual quiz tussle.

The annual sports auction and sports quiz at Mountbatten School, in Romsey, saw team members of Hampshire Cricket compete against Southampton Football Club players in a test of sporting knowledge.

For the Saints there was Adam Lallana, Danny Fox, Richard Chaplow and Jack Cork, while for the Royals it was James Vince, David Balcombe, Liam Dawson and David Griffiths.

And the 'Question of Sport-style quiz', which is now in its 28th year, proved a much closer contest than years gone by.

Although the Royals opened up a five-point lead in the opening two rounds, Saints staged a comeback in the following two rounds to bring them within one point of the Royals.

Watched by a large audience, the competition remained tight in the remaining rounds but the cricketers came out the victors by 46 points to 44.

Players involved were presented with gifts by the school.

The quiz was followed by a sports auction of 29 items of sports memorabilia from sporting celebrities and sports organisations, including a signed Jessica Ennis Olympic top which sold for £460, and some of which were modelled by Year 11 Sports Leaders.

Under the control of the auctioneer, assistant head Rob Davenport, £2,160 was raised.

The money will be divided between Jane Scarth House in Romsey and The Peter Faulkner Foundation.

New quiz master on the night, Chris Cox, Mountbatten's deputy headteacher said: "This is both a great local tradition, and a highlight of the Mountbatten School calendar."

QUESTION OF SPORT: Saints players Adam Lallana, Danny Fox, Richard Chaplow and Jack Cork (above), take on Hampshire players James Vince, Liam Dawson, David Griffiths and David Balcombe (right) at Mountbatten School's annual quiz.



TERRY PAINE'S COLUMN RETURNS NEXT WEEKEND

What's in a name?

PETE Winkelman insists MK Dons will not be changing their name in order to appease AFC Wimbledon.

Winkelman, MK Dons chairman, was instrumental in Wimbledon FC, FA Cup winners in 1988, relocating from south-west London to the Buckinghamshire city of Milton Keynes in 2003.

The club was renamed MK Dons the following year.

Angry Wimbledon FC fans vowed to save the club's history and formed AFC Wimbledon from scratch in the Combined Counties League.

After five promotions in eight years, AFC Wimbledon, a club owned by a fans' trust, are just one division below League 1 MK Dons.

The two clubs are set to meet for the first time on Sunday in the FA Cup second round.

Since the draw was made AFC Wimbledon officials and supporters' groups have called for the Milton Keynes 'franchise', as they refer to the club, to drop the moniker Dons from their name.

But Winkelman said:

"I'm a custodian of the club and the only way our name could ever change is if our supporters demanded it."

"It's incredibly clear, and clear in every conversation I have, that we are the MK Dons, we're going to stay the MK Dons, and in the future we're going to be the MK Dons."

AFC Wimbledon chairman Erik Samuelson has said he will not acknowledge Winkelman on Sunday and he and the club's other officials will snub the chance to sit in the directors' box at stadium:mk.

AFC Wimbledon fans have threatened to boycott the game while some that are making the 50-plus mile trip north out of London are thought to be turning up in contamination suits.

Here, the *Sports Pink* looks at a timeline for both clubs.

2000 Wimbledon relegated from Premier League after losing 2-0 at The Dell.

2001 Wimbledon announce intention to relocate to Milton Keynes.

2002 AFC Wimbledon formed by fans furious at proposed move, beginning life in Combined Counties League Premier Division and playing at Kingstons' Kingsmeadow ground.

2003 With the club in administration, Wimbledon move to Milton Keynes, taking up residence at the National Hockey Stadium.

2004 Wimbledon come out of administration and are rebranded as MK Dons, relegated to League One in the same year; AFC Wimbledon win promotion to Ryman League First Division.

2005 AFC Wimbledon promoted to Ryman League Premier.

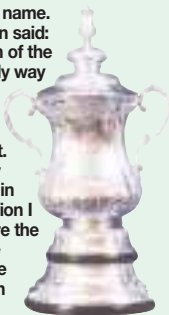
2006 MK Dons relegated to League Two.

2007 MK Dons move to stadium:mk.

2008 MK Dons promoted to League One; AFC Wimbledon promoted to Blue Square Bet South division.

2009 AFC Wimbledon promoted to Blue Square Bet Premier.

2011 AFC Wimbledon promoted to League Two via Conference play-offs - a fifth promotion in nine seasons.



Premiership Spotlight

STILL PACKING 'EM

Simon Carter

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SPORTS EDITOR



NEW ERA: Alan Shearer left Saints just as the Premier League was starting.

THE Premier League this week passed the 250million fan mark at games – 20 years after its launch.

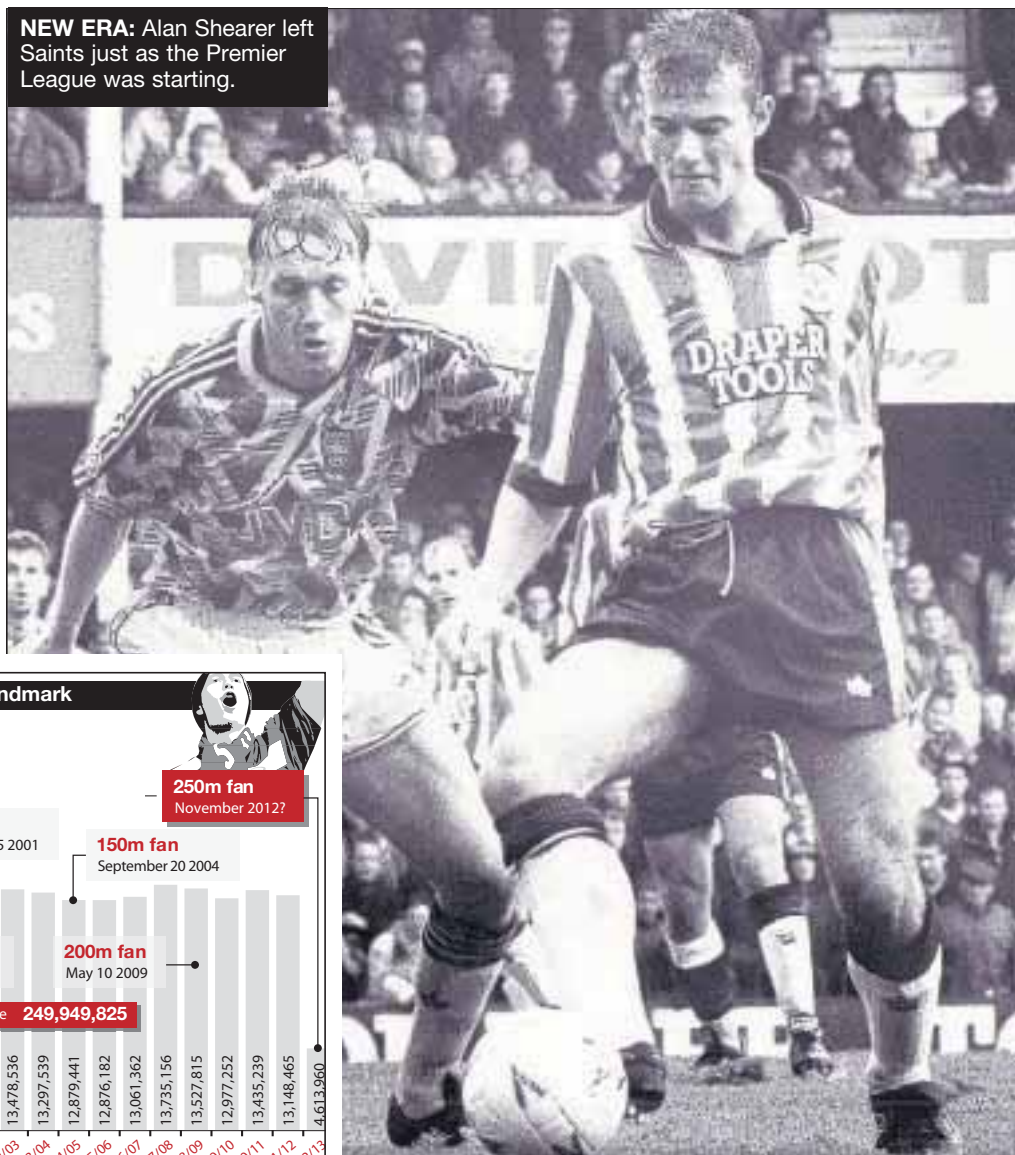
The landmark figure was hailed by the PL's chief executive Richard Scudamore, with average attendances swelling by more than 50 per cent compared to 1992-93, the first season of the league.

Scudamore also said crowds were now more diverse and family-friendly, and no-one who regularly went to football matches prior to the Premier League's formation would surely dispute that.

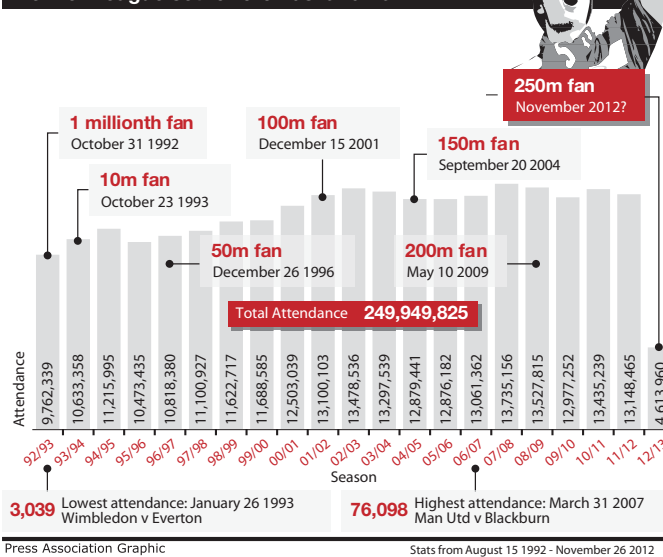
He said: "Having 250 million fans come into Premier League grounds is a terrific landmark."

"The Premier League is now the most watched and supported football league in the world and what people see is great football played in fantastic stadia packed full of vibrant, passionate fans."

"Over the last two decades our



Premier League set for crowds landmark



clubs have worked tirelessly to make Premier League grounds more welcoming and are striving to deliver a first-rate experience for all fans.

"We have grown from 9million supporters in the 1992/93 season through to 13million-plus in each of the last four seasons, and this campaign our grounds are currently 95 per cent full."

"Importantly the audience for Premier League football has never been more diverse: 23 per cent of attending fans are female, 11 per cent are black or ethnic minority

and 13 per cent of season-ticket holders are children."

"More of everyone is coming to Premier League football."

Average attendances in the 1992-23 season were 21,131 – a few thousand less than Saints averaged in winning promotion from the second tier of English football last term.

Prior to the midweek games this week, this season's average of 35,767 was only slightly below the record season of 2007-08.

Manchester United, unsurprisingly, have had the biggest crowds

in the last two decades. They account for nearly 10 per cent of the total number of fans (24.4m) ahead of Arsenal (17.1m) Liverpool (16.5m), Newcastle (15.9m) and Chelsea (13.7m).

It wasn't always like this, though.

Back in 1992/93 United only averaged just over 35,000 – less than Liverpool – despite winning the title.

Now they regularly pull in 75,000-plus attendances due to building bigger and better stands.

United's crowds are 15,000 more than the second best supported club, Arsenal.

The Gunners, thanks to moving from their cramped Highbury environs six years ago, are another club that have more than doubled their

average crowds since the Premier League was launched.

European champions Chelsea are another, having started their Premier League life with average crowds of under 19,000 – not much more than Wigan Athletic get these days.

At the time, that was not surprising. After all, Chelsea only attracted a crowd of under 8,000 to watch a First Division game against Saints in 1991.

Back in 1992/93 Wimbledon were bottom of the Premier League attendance table, a position they were to keep until their extraordinary stay in the top flight was ended in 2000.

The Dons averaged just over 8,000 in 1992/93, though handicapped by

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Premiership Spotlight

IN AFTER 20 YEARS

PACKED HOUSES:
Premier League grounds
are often very nearly full.



**Premier League average
attendances 1992/93**

Arsenal	24,403
A Villa	29,594
Blackburn	16,246
Chelsea	18,787
Coventry	14,951
C Palace	15,748
Everton	20,445
Ipswich	18,223
Leeds	29,250
Liverpool	37,004
Man City	24,698
Man Utd	35,152
Middlesbrough	16,724
Norwich	16,154
Nottm Forest	21,910
Oldham	12,859
QPR	15,015
Shef Utd	18,801
Sheff Wed	27,263
Saints	15,382
Tottenham	27,740

playing home games at Crystal Palace's Selhurst Park headquarters.

That was the season that Wimbledon established a Premier League record which has never been beaten, and almost certainly never will.

The PL's lowest ever attendance remains the paltry 3,039 that saw the Dons host Everton on January 26, 1993.

That sort of crowd wasn't what the money men had in mind when in May 1992 the breakaway league signed a broadcasting rights contract with British Sky Broadcasting and the BBC valued at £304m.

At the time it was the largest such agreement in the history of British

sport, though obviously dwarfed by subsequent deals.

Surprisingly, the Premier League were unable to find a sponsor for their new structure, as eight clubs blocked a proposed £13m deal with brewers Bass.

Still, the clubs were quick to flex their new financial muscle, with Blackburn breaking the British transfer record to sign Saints ace Alan Shearer for £3.3m.

That sort of transfer fee is commonplace these days, even for the less glamorous clubs.

I don't mind admitting the Premier League's remarkable success story has taken me by surprise. But who could have predicted that a simple rebranding of the old First Division would produce such riches?

The clubs concerned obviously thought they would bank more cash, as that was the *raison d'être* for breaking away from the three other divisions of the Football League in the first place.

Yet no one could ever have predicted the sheer weight of money which would flood the PL coffers? Or the sea change said monies would have on the English game.

Back in 1992/93 foreign players were nothing new in the top flight – the trickle that would turn into a raging torrent began in the late 1970s.

But 20 years ago the Premier League was nothing resembling the cosmopolitan beast we see today – on the pitch or in the dug-outs.

At the moment only four of the 20 PL managers are English, compared to 16 out of 22 in 1992/93. And five of the other six came from the Home Nations, with the Republic of Ireland's Joe Kinnear (Wimbledon) the only exception.

I certainly agree with Scudamore when he talks about football now being a more inclusive spectator sport, with women, children and those from ethnic backgrounds all playing a major part in the 'vibrant' scene.

That is not just the case in the Premier League, but throughout the lower divisions.

Amazed

The gender/age/ethnic percentages enjoying live football these days are far more equal across the tiers than ever before, and the Premier League has certainly played a part in that.

Meanwhile, clubs in the lower divisions struggle by on crowds of under 3,000, a world away from the Premier League big boys.

I am amazed that no Football League club has gone out of business mid-season since Aldershot 20 years ago, though former Football League clubs such as Halifax, Chester and Scarborough have been liquidated while playing in the non leagues.

There is little cosmopolitan glamour and glitz in the lower divisions, and probably none of the rampant egos that have marred many a Premier League campaign.

But it is the rampant egos which dominate the national media, helping to keep the Premier League very much in the forefront of everyone's minds.

Rupert Murdoch and co have done a phenomenal job promoting the PL, that much is indisputable.

There is no sign of the cash cow's milk running out any time soon, which is great news for Saints and the other top flight clubs.

And until it does, the millions will keep on coming through the turnstiles, even though most of the prices, like the crowd figures, keep on rising ...

MICHAEL Schumacher, Formula One's most successful driver, has retired for a second time from the sport at the age of 43 following the season-ending Brazilian Grand Prix.

His 19 seasons in the sport saw him rewrite the record book and the rule book, primarily during his initial 16-year spell, as the last three with Mercedes have been bitterly disappointing.

Here, the *Sports Pink* takes a look at the highs and lows of the seven-times champion's career.



SIX OF THE BEST

1991. At the age of 22, qualifies a stunning seventh on his grand prix debut in Belgium with the unfancied Jordan team.

1992. Back in Belgium, and from third on the grid, Schumacher seals the first of his record 91 grands prix victories.

1994. Manages a heroic second place in Spain despite racing for 40 laps stuck in fifth gear.

1995. Reels in Jean Alesi in the closing stages at the Nurburgring, obliterating a 42-second deficit in 27 laps before passing the Ferrari around the outside on the penultimate lap.

1996. Wins at a wet Barcelona by 45 seconds after annihilating the opposition despite dropping to sixth at the start.

2003. Responds to the death of his mother overnight by winning in Imola despite his grief.

SIX OF THE WORST

1994. Finishes second at Silverstone, but fails to serve a five-second stop-go penalty, then ignores black flags. Sixteen days after the event, the FIA World Motor Sport Council hands Schumacher a two-race ban and strip him of his second place.

1994. After hitting the Adelaide wall and terminally damaging his car, smashes into Damon Hill to secure his first world title.

1997. Cynically slams into a failed bid to win the title. Is stripped of his second place in the championship by the FIA.

2002. Takes advantage of Ferrari team orders to pass team-mate Rubens Barrichello yards from the chequered flag in Austria for a victory greeted by derision from the crowd.

2002. Inexplicably attempted to engineer a dead heat at Indianapolis, only to lose out to Barrichello by 0.011 seconds.

2006. Parks his Ferrari across the track in Monaco in an attempt to disrupt qualifying and retain pole position. Sent to the back of the grid by stewards.

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Saints Spotlight

Sports Quiz

- 1 Carson Palmer is the quarterback for which NFL team?
- 2 Which British course hosted the 1981 Ryder Cup?
- 3 Croatia's Mladen Petric was released by which German side before joining Fulham?
- 4 How many times has Andy Roddick appeared in the Wimbledon singles final?
- 5 In which year did Michael Schumacher win the first of his seven Formula One titles?
- 6 In which year did England captain Alastair Cook make his Test debut?
- 7 Who is the Clydesdale Bank Scottish Premier League's top goalscorer?
- 8 And which club is he currently playing for?
- 9 In rugby union, which club side did Andy Robinson coach before taking over as Scotland boss?
- 10 Who is the highest-placed Englishman in golf's world rankings?
- 11 In which year did Harry Redknapp win the FA Cup with Portsmouth?
- 12 Monty Panesar has taken how many Test wickets - 143 or 153?
- 13 Which side won the rugby league Championship last season?
- 14 How old is three-time Formula One world champion Sebastian Vettel?
- 15 What was the score in the British & Irish Lions' 2005 series against New Zealand?
- 16 Australian centre Joel Moon last week joined which Super League club on a three-year deal?
- 17 Which country won last weekend's Davis Cup final?
- 18 Michael Schumacher, who this week retired from Formula One for a second time, made his debut in the sport in which year?
- 19 From which German club did Newcastle sign striker Papiss Cisse?
- 20 Which Asian city hosted the 1998 Winter Olympics?
- 21 Which batsman was Ricky Ponting's last Test wicket?
- 22 Who beat British super-heavyweight David Price at the 2008 Olympics?
- 23 Where were the 1988 Olympic Games held?
- 24 What nationality is the reigning world number one in women's singles Victoria Azarenka?
- 25 Accrington play their home games at which stadium?
- 26 What year did Ricky Ponting make his Test debut for Australia?
- 27 Who was the first English footballer to score at three World Cups?
- 28 The NFL's New York Jets play their home games in which American state?
- 29 Newcastle boss Alan Pardew began his managerial career with which club?
- 30 Who did Ricky Burns beat to capture the WBO super-featherweight title?

Answers

Reading: 30 Roman Martinez.
 27 David Beckham; 28 New Jersey; 29 1995;
 Belarusian; 25 Crown Ground; 26 1953;
 Cammarville; 23 Seoul (South Korea); 24 Michael Vaughan; 22 Roberto
 18 1991; 19 Freiburg; 20 Nagano; 21
 Zealand; 16 Leeds; 17 Czech Republic;
 13 Sheffield; 14 25; 15 3-0 to New
 Luke Donald (second); 11 2008; 12 153;
 Griffiths; 8 Hibernian; 9 Edinburgh; 10
 Hamburg; 4 Three 5 1994; 6 2006 7 Leigh
 1 Oakland Raiders 2 Walton Heath 3



PANESAR

SAINTS welcome Reading to St Mary's next weekend for the two clubs' first ever meeting in the top flight of English football.

Both have come a long way in a fairly short space of time, writes **SIMON CARTER**.

Let's wind the clock back to December 16, 2009, the day Brian McDermott was appointed the Royals boss replacing the sacked Brendan Rodgers.

Reading were fourth bottom of the Championship, just three points above the drop zone with 21 games of the season gone.

As for Saints, they were 13th in the third division.

Thanks to McDermott winning 12 of his first 25 games as a professional manager, the Berkshire club finished ninth. Saints, under the management of ex-Royals boss Alan Pardew, ended seventh in League 1.

Fast forward a few years and both clubs were promoted from the Championship last April.

For most of the season it was Saints who looked most likely to win promotion.

But McDermott's men came with a startling run in the second half of the campaign, and their 3-1 win at St Mary's just a few weeks prior to the end of 2011/12 was crucial in seeing them claim the title.

Possibly unsurprisingly, both Reading and Saints have struggled for most of this season.

Reading's problem has been conceding late goals.

In their second game of the season they led Chelsea 2-1 at Stamford Bridge, only to concede a 69th minute leveller and then two more

goals in the closing nine minutes.

An injury time goal from Demba Ba rescued Newcastle a point in late September before Swansea came from 0-2 down to grab a point in south Wales a week later.

Reading then infamously let slip a 4-0 lead to lose 7-5 at home to Arsenal in the Capital One Cup.

The Royals climbed out of the drop zone with their first Premier League win, 2-1 against Everton.

STICK TOGETHER:
 Brian McDermott

But they lost 3-2 at Wigan last weekend, conceding a last minute winner, and another late goal - this time ten minutes from the end - allowed Aston Villa to climb out the relegation zone on Tuesday night.

McDermott responded to the defeat at Villa Park by calling for unity, insisting the club are in a "great situation" compared to when he took charge three years ago.

The Royals went into this weekend's clash with Manchester United four points adrift of the safety line in the Barclays Premier League.

McDermott has the situation in perspective.

He said: "We have to stick together now. It is really important we do that as a group, as fans."

"Hopefully they will stick with us, and get us over the line, and we get a result somewhere."

"We've got Manchester United next and it doesn't get any better. Reading are playing Manchester United."

"When I took this job three years ago we were second from bottom in the Championship, trying to stay in it."

"The following year we lost Gylfi Sigurdsson, the summer



DAILY ECHO AND PINK - BEST FOR SAINTS COVERAGE

Saints Spotlight



FINDING LIFE TOUGH

Down Memory Lane



December 1, 1973
Saints 2 Everton 0

Brian O'Neil scores an early goal to put the hosts ahead. Mike Channon's last minute penalty gives the Saints the victory.

December 2, 1989
Millwall 2 Saints 2

Paul Rideout's first half goal and Matt Le Tissier's 88th minute penalty secures a point. Le Tissier makes it four penalties out of four at The Den.

December 2, 1995
Liverpool 1 Saints 1

Neil Shipperley scores in the 60th minute as the Saints stayed disciplined at Anfield to pick up a point. Stan Collymore equalised just six minutes later.

December 3, 1966
Saints 2 Newcastle 0

Ron Davies and Jimmy Melia both score in front of a crowd of 21,488.

December 4, 1965
Charlton 2 Saints 2

Tony Godfrey makes his last appearance in the league. Martin Chivers scored both goals, including a late equaliser.

December 4, 2000
Everton 2 Saints 0

Saints dominated the first half as both goals came for Everton in the second period. The defeat was Saints' 10th in 14 league games.



CELEBRATION TIME:

James Beattie scores a penalty against Birmingham, 2002.

December 5th, 1981
Saints 3 Manchester United 2

Kevin Keegan, Steve Moran and Dave Armstrong all score as the Saints beat United. Keegan also scores a goal that was offside and he dubbed it "the best goal that never was".

December 5, 1993
Saints 2 Arsenal 0

Saints win with goals from Iain Dowie and Neil Maddison.

December 6, 1969
Arsenal 2 Saints 2

Gerry Gurr makes his final appearance in the league for the Saints. Ron Davies and Jimmy Gabriel score.

December 7 1976
Saints 1 Chelsea 1

Ted MacDougall scores in the second minute to put the Saints ahead, but Chelsea level in the second half.

December 7, 2002
Saints 2 Birmingham City 0

James Beattie continues his great run of form by scoring both goals.



Saints' greatest goal against Reading ...

Flashback to a packed Dell in April 1960 and Brian Clifton, second right, heads Saints' winning goal against Reading which all but ensured Ted Bates' side won promotion to the old Second Division.

after that we lost Shane Long.

"When you think of all of those things, if you look at it, we are in a great situation.

"We are in the Barclays Premier League and fighting to make sure we stay there for next year."

McDermott is confident Reading will show the right type of character to overcome their current predicament.

He added: "The players aren't anxious.

"We just want to get a result and get some momentum.

"You always find out a lot about yourself, the staff, the players, when you don't get the right result

and how you bounce back.

"Over the years, we've bounced back all the way.

"It was not a six-pointer against Villa. It was a game of football.

"Villa have got 13 points, they're going to want a lot more than that. We've got nine, we will want a lot more than that. There are 20 more games plus to go."

McDermott is waiting to find out what money he will have available to strengthen the squad during the January transfer window.

While Saints splashed around £30m last summer, Reading spent around a third of that sum.

They spent around £6m on striker

Pavel Pogrebnyak, who had a loan spell in the Premier League with Fulham last season. With five goals from 13 league and cup appearances - three in the Capital One Cup - he is the club's leading marksman this term.

McDermott also spent around £5m on two Championship defenders, Adrian Mariappa from Watford and Chris Gunter from Nottingham Forest.

McDermott said: "It's like everything in this league, if you are going to strengthen your squad you are going to need money.

"I don't know what we've got.

"If you look at what Villa have

spent on Benteke, £7million, it's a lot of money.

"In January, whether you can get someone to come in and play straight away in this league, we shall wait and see."

Meanwhile, McDermott is confident Reading will cure their habit of conceding late goals.

He said: "It was frustrating to lose another late goal. Over my three years here we've had spells when we have conceded late goals and solved that problem.

"Last season we couldn't score a goal in the first half for 19 games and solved that problem and won the Championship."

GOT A NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL STORY? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

BOOK of the WEEK

Unbelievable
By Jessica Ennis

Sportsbookofthemonth.com
price: £10, saving £10 on rrp

Over the years, British sport has been blessed with many truly great days and nights, occasions when the outstanding nature of an individual or team achievement has succeeded in lifting national spirit.

Admittedly, many of these feats are deemed fantastic only if you're a dedicated follower of the winner.

But it's difficult to argue with the assertion that for the nation as a whole, August 4, 2012 should go down as the greatest day in British sport.

Early in the day, Team GB won two golds and a silver at Eton Dorney.

Then the women's pursuit cyclists broke the world record for a fifth time to qualify for their gold medal match.

If this wasn't enough, the evening session added a large dollop of extra magic.

John Inverdale memorably described it as being "like the last night of the Proms times a hundred".

In the space of an hour, Mo Farah, Greg Rutherford and Jessica Ennis, the 'face of the Games', won gold during the most inspirational, uplifting, night of all.

Ennis was not necessarily expected to win her final heptathlon event, the 800m.

But as she limbered up, her coach told her she had between 15 and 25 seconds on her nearest rivals.

"The figures were music to my ears," she writes, "and confidence oozed through me."

The weight of expectation on this young woman was, appropriately, given her book's title, truly unbelievable, yet she drew upon the energy generated by the crowd, her "80,000 friends".

She describes the race's final lap: "As I move forwards I hear the crowd erupt. I feel I am being carried along."

Hands up if you recall shouting at the TV screen, urging her towards the finish line.

As she crossed the line, around 60 million people greeted her victory with a mighty, collective roar.

Jessica had done it.

The girl next door was an Olympic champion.

It was, she tells us, a 16 year race to this ultimate glory, a period during which she was bullied at school for being small and endured the heartache of injury which nearly ended her career.

Unbelievable is worth buying just to relive that wonderful early August night.

But as Jessica Ennis's name is on the cover, you get much, much more.



Premiership Spotlight



Harry will need to pull off his greatest Houdini act yet to save QPR from the drop

HE is the man who has made a career out of rescuing clubs from precarious positions and turning them around.

Apart from one infamous occasion, and Saints fans won't need reminding of that.

But it's fair to say that Harry Redknapp is facing the toughest task of a management career that started almost 30 years ago.

He has arrived at Queens Park Rangers with the west London club having banked four points from their first 13 Premier League games.

Redknapp began with a point at Sunderland in his first game on Tuesday, but the road to top flight safety looks an incredibly long one.

It is the fifth time that Redknapp has been handed a management job mid season with a club struggling badly.

This is his record so far ...

October 19, 1983

He was given his first taste of professional management at AFC Bournemouth with the Cherries second bottom of the old Third Division, five points from safety.

Redknapp steered the Dorset club to safety, finishing nine points above the drop zone in 17th place.

For good measure, he also masterminded a remarkable FA Cup third round victory over holders Manchester United.

Just three years later, in 1986/87, Redknapp guided Bournemouth to promotion to the old Second Division for the first, and only, time in the club's history.

December 8, 2004

Redknapp controversially arrived at Saints with the club third bottom of the Premier League drop zone, two points from safety.

But he only managed to win four of his 22 games in charge and the club finished bottom of the table.

December 7, 2005

Redknapp returned to Fratton Park to find Pompey in a worse state than he had inherited at St Mary's - the club also third bottom but four points away from safety.

This time, though, the managerial magic was there and Pompey finished four points clear of the bottom three, with Redknapp managing eight wins in 23 games.

Two years later Redknapp guided Pompey to FA Cup final success.

Simon Carter

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SPORTS EDITOR



October 25, 2008

Redknapp arrived at Tottenham with the team rock bottom of the Premier League with only two points from eight games.

Thanks to 14 wins in 30 games, Spurs finished eighth.

He later took them into the Champions League after a fourth place finish in his first full season, 2009/10.

Redknapp has also masterminded escapes from the drop in other seasons - notably at West Ham in 1996/97, when the Hammers were third bottom in mid February, and Pompey in 2003/04.

Only Saints are the exception to the rule, therefore.

Redknapp returned to the Premier League admitting he needed a break from football after the craziest year of his life.

Succeeding in what he admitted was the 'toughest' assignment of his managerial career should be child's play compared to the stress of beating charges of a far more serious nature back in February.

Then, Redknapp was fighting for his very freedom in a tax evasion trial which ultimately saw him cleared.

The footballing disappointments which followed - being snubbed for the England job and sacked by Tottenham - simply compounded what had been an emotionally exhausting first half of 2012 for the 65-year-old.

Asked if it had been the craziest year of his life, he said: "Yeah, oh yeah. Certainly. The whole thing was a bit bizarre, wasn't it?"

"I probably needed a break. Maybe it wasn't the worst thing that could have happened to me."

Neither was losing out to Roy Hodgson for the England job or being sacked by Spurs, according to Redknapp.

"I didn't go home that night when I heard on the radio that Roy

had been given the England job and lock myself up in a room," he said.

"I didn't go away from Tottenham that night when Daniel Levy sacked me and want to jump off the edge of Bournemouth Pier."

"The next day I am up playing golf. I mean, what can I do? That is the way that I am."

Redknapp claimed he did not attend a Premier League game this season for fear of his presence being misinterpreted as a sign one of the managers involved was set for the chop.

Instead, he watched a lot of football on television and at his beloved Bournemouth, where he took on an advisory role in September.

He also spent time in the local community, which includes Victoria Education Centre & Sports College, a haven of high-quality care for disabled youngsters (pictured above).

"You want to go up to see all these kids at Victoria school," he said. "That is life. This is only football. It is only a game."



WENDY GEE'S NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL STARTS ON PAGE 17

Premiership Spotlight



Life and times of Harry Redknapp

1947: Born Poplar, East London, March 2.

1964: March - Signs professional forms for West Ham following apprenticeship.

1965-71: Makes 149 league appearances for West Ham, scoring five goals.

1972-75: Signs for Bournemouth in August 1972. Makes 101 league appearances.

1976: September - Signs for Brentford, but makes just one appearance.

1982: September - Returns to Bournemouth as coach.

1983: Takes over from Don Megson as manager of the Cherries.

1984: Club languish second from bottom in the old Division Three but beat holders Manchester United in the third round of the FA Cup.

1987: Guides Bournemouth to Division Three title.

1992: Leaves Bournemouth to return to West Ham as assistant manager to Billy Bonds.

1994: Named as the Hammers' eighth manager in the club's history after Bonds resigns.

2001: Hammers stave off threat of relegation with three weeks of the season remaining but, with the club 14th in the table, Redknapp decides to quit. June 21 - Appointed director of football at Portsmouth.

2002: Becomes manager at Fratton Park when Graham Rix is sacked.

2003: April - Leads Portsmouth to promotion to the Premier League.

2004: May 15 - Pompey finish 13th in Premier League.

November 24 - Resigns as Portsmouth manager. December 8 - Confirmed as Southampton manager.

2005: May 15 - Southampton lose 2-1 at home to Manchester United and are relegated from the Premier League on the final day of the season.

December 3 - Redknapp walks out on Saints, claiming he made 'a monumental mistake' in leaving Portsmouth.

December 7 - Portsmouth confirm Redknapp as their new manager.

2006: May 25 - Redknapp signs a new three-year deal with the club.

September 19 - Accused by BBC Panorama programme of attempting to tap up Blackburn player Andy Todd. Redknapp refutes the allegation.

2007: May 13 - Portsmouth finish seventh in Premier League. June: Lord Stevens publishes final report

into transfer irregularities. Its only criticism of Redknapp was his ownership of a racehorse thought to have been given to him by agent Willie McKay. Redknapp told the inquiry it was possible he did own the horse but insisted he had not made any money out of it.

October 29 - Signs a new contract with Portsmouth until 2011.

November 28 - One of five men arrested by City of London Police investigating corruption in football. The men were held on suspicion of conspiracy to defraud and false accounting - and were released without charge later the same day.

2008: January 11 - Meets with Newcastle chairman Chris Mort and is offered the job of manager, but he rejects the offer a day later.

May 17 - Portsmouth beat Cardiff 1-0 at Wembley to lift the FA Cup.

May 23 - Redknapp wins his High Court claim that police who raided his home as part of a corruption inquiry were acting unlawfully.

October 26 - Redknapp reveals he has agreed to become Tottenham manager.

2009: May - Having taken over with Spurs bottom of Premier League and with just two points from eight games, guides club to eighth-placed finish.

2010: April 11 - Spurs beaten 2-0 in FA Cup semi-final by Portsmouth.

May 5 - Secures top-four Premier League finish and place in Champions League qualifying round with 1-0 win at Manchester City.

July 13 - Signs contract extension to keep him at White Hart Lane until 2013.

November 2 - Spurs stun Inter Milan 3-1 at White Hart Lane in the outstanding performance of a Champions League campaign that ends in the quarter-finals.

2011: May - Spurs finish

fifth in the Premier League, missing out on the Champions League.

November 3 - Redknapp misses Tottenham's Europa League trip to Rubin Kazan after a having a heart procedure, and goes on to miss further matches while he recovers.

2012: February 8 - Redknapp is acquitted on charges of cheating the public revenue. On the same day, Fabio Capello's abrupt departure from England sees Redknapp installed as the favourite to replace him. During weeks of speculation, Tottenham's form dips.

May 1 - England name Roy Hodgson as manager.

May 13 - Having conceded a 10-point advantage over Arsenal, Tottenham finish the season fourth.

May 19 - Chelsea's victory in the Champions League final costs Tottenham a place in the tournament next season.

June 12 - Redknapp rejects speculation he is set to leave Tottenham.

June 14 - Spurs confirm he is to leave the club.

August 26 - Says in an interview he wants to return in a management role at the top level in England.

September 7 - Takes up advisory role with Bournemouth.

November 22 - Reports say he is close to taking over as manager of Ukraine.

November 23 - Redknapp confirms that a deal is all but done to take over at QPR.

November 24 - Confirmed as QPR's manager.



● **RORY McIlroy's dream year** finished this week with victory at the DP World Tour Championship in Dubai.

Here, the *Sports Pink* looks back at five highlights from the Irish golfer's remarkable 2012.

Honda Classic, Florida, March 3

Tiger Woods closes with a 62, but with a 69 for a two-shot victory McIlroy takes over from Luke Donald as world number one for the first time.

Two months short of his 23rd birthday he is the youngest to top the rankings since Woods.

Donald would get the spot back three times, but since August the Northern Irishman has reigned supreme and opened a huge lead.

USPGA Championship, South Carolina, August 12

After four missed cuts in five starts and then a disappointing Open, McIlroy answer his critics in the best way possible, winning the last major of the year by eight shots just as he had the US Open in 2011.

It is the biggest margin of victory since the event switched from match play to stroke play in 1958, beating Jack Nicklaus' seven-shot win in 1980.

BMW Championship, Indiana, September 9

A week after capturing the second of the FedEx Cup play-off events, he does it again in the third leg.

In a star-studded leaderboard, Phil Mickelson and Lee Westwood are two strokes back in second and Tiger Woods a further shot back.



NICE TROPHY: Rory McIlroy and his girlfriend, tennis star Caroline Wozniacki, with the DP World Golf Championship silverware.

McIlroy feels somewhat "hard done by" that it does not clinch the \$10million cup bonus, but the points are reset for the final week, Brandt Snedeker and he have to settle for "only" \$3million.

Ryder Cup, Illinois, September 30

McIlroy is part of an incredible Ryder Cup comeback story. From 10-4 down he sees partner Ian Poulter birdie the last five holes and Europe go into the singles only four points behind.

He almost misses the start against Keegan Bradley after a mix-up over his start time, but a State Trooper gets him to the course. He beats the previously unbeaten American and Europe win by a point.

DP World Tour Championship, Dubai, November 25

After clinching the PGA and European Tour money list double with an eagle in Singapore, McIlroy could have taken things easy in the final week. But after a closing 62 from Hampshire star Justin Rose, the Northern Irishman comes from two behind to win by two with five closing birdies.

Despite suffering from sunstroke he has three rounds of 66 and a 67 for a 23 under par total.

Saints Spotlight

SAINTS' FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2012/13

AUGUST

Sun 19 Man CityA
 Sat 25 WiganH
 Tues 28 Stevenage (COC 2)A

SEPTEMBER

Sun 2 Man UnitedH
 Sat 15 ArsenalA
 Sat 22 Aston VillaH
 Tues 25 Sheff Wed (COC 3)H
 Sat 29 EvertonA

OCTOBER

Sun 7 FulhamH
 Sat 20 West HamA
 Sun 28 TottenhamH
 Tues 31 Leeds (COC 4)A

NOVEMBER

Mon 5 West BromA
 Sat 10 SwanseaH
 Sat 17 QPRA
 Sun 25 NewcastleH
 Weds 28 NorwichH

DECEMBER

Sat 1 LiverpoolA
 Sat 8 ReadingH
 Sat 22 SunderlandH
 Weds 26 FulhamA
 Sat 29 StokeA

JANUARY

Tues 1 ArsenalH
 Sat 12 Aston VillaA
 Mon 21 EvertonA
 Weds 30 Man UnitedA

FEBRUARY

Sat 2 WiganA
 Sat 9 Man CityA
 Sat 23 NewcastleA

MARCH

Sat 2 QPRH
 Sat 9 NorwichA
 Sat 16 LiverpoolH
 Sat 30 ChelseaH

APRIL

Sat 6 ReadingA
 Sat 13 West HamH
 Sat 20 SwanseaA
 Sat 27 West BromH

MAY

Sat 4 TottenhamA
 Sun 12 SunderlandA
 Sun 19 StokeH



L 2-3 L 0-2 W 4-1	K Davis K Davis Gazzaniga	Clyne Clyne Butterfield	Fonte Fonte Richardson	Hooiveld Hooiveld Seaborne	Fox Fox Shaw	Ward-Prowse** S Davis* Chaplow*	Schneiderlin Schneiderlin W-Prowse	Lallana Lallana Hammond**	Puncheon*** Do Prado Puncheon 1	Do Prado Rodriguez** Lee 1	Rodriguez* Lambert Sharp*** 1	Lambert* 1 W-Prowse* Reeves* 1	S Davis** 1 Sharp** Chambers**	Sharp*** Hoskins***
L 2-3 L 1-6 W 4-1 W 2-0 L 1-3	K Davis K Davis Gazzaniga Gazzaniga Gazzaniga	Clyne Clyne Clyne 1 Richardson Richardson	Fonte Fonte Fonte Hooiveld Fonte	Hooiveld Hooiveld* Yoshida Yoshida Yoshida	Fox Fox 1 Fox* Seaborne Clyne**	W-Prowse W-Prowse S Davis*** W-Prowse W-Prowse	Schneiderlin 1 Schneiderlin Schneiderlin Cork** S Davis	S Davis S Davis** Lallana Chaplow Lallana***	Puncheon* Puncheon Puncheon*** 1 De Ridder Rodriguez*	Lallana*** Lallana Ramirez Do Prado* Ramirez 1	Lambert*** 1 Lambert*** Lambert 2 Rodriguez*** 2 Lambert	Mayuka* Yoshida* Richardson* Reeves* Mayuka*	Do Prado** Ramirez** Mayuka** Robinson** Reeves**	Rodriguez*** Rodriguez*** W-Prowse*** Hoskins*** Chaplow***
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L 0-2 D 1-1 W 3-1 W 2-0 D 1-1	Gazzaniga Gazzaniga Gazzaniga Gazzaniga Gazzaniga	Clyne Clyne Clyne Clyne Clyne	Fonte Fonte Fonte Fonte Fonte	Yoshida Yoshida Yoshida Yoshida Yoshida	Fox*** Shaw* Shaw** Shaw*** Shaw*	Ramirez** Schneiderlin 1 Schneiderlin Schneiderlin Schneiderlin	Schneiderlin Cork Cork Cork Cork	S Davis Puncheon Puncheon 1 Puncheon Puncheon**	Lallana Ramirez Ramirez* Ramirez* Ramirez	Rodriguez* Lallana Lallana Lallana Lallana	Lambert Lambert Lambert*** 1 Lambert* Lambert 1	Mayuka* Fox* S Davis* Rodriguez* Reeves*	Do Prado** Fox** S Davis** Rodriguez** Rodriguez**	Shaw*** Rodriguez*** Hooiveld***

Cork is a class act in midfield

THE transformation in Saints over the last few weeks has been nothing short of remarkable.

For example, compare the first 45 minutes against Spurs to the first 45 against Norwich this week.

The teams weren't overly different – Boruc, Fox and Steven Davis being replaced by Gazzaniga, Shaw and Cork.

Despite the similarity of the starting XIs though, the performances were worlds apart.

Anyone could come up with various theories and reasons as to why that is – confidence, tactics, the alignment of the stars – and to varying degrees they could well be right.

However for my money it has to be the return of Jack Cork that has settled the side down, as he seems to have provided the proverbial missing link.

His partnership with Morgan Schneiderlin last season provided a fantastic platform for the likes of Lallana and Lambert and now they're back together the entire side just looks like a more cohesive unit.

You don't need me to tell you what Jack Cork does well. He's dis-

DAN KERINS A VIEW FROM THE STANDS

ciplined, strong and intelligent on the ball and most importantly he dovetails superbly with Schneiderlin.

Even in his first spell here, under the doomed reign of Jan Poortvliet he looked like a classy player and the loss of him midway through the season was just another nail in a miserable season.

Since Adkins took him back to Southampton though, he has gone on to make himself an integral yet unshowy cog in the machine.

His willingness to do more than his share of the hard graft in the middle of the park means the frenchman alongside him is no longer overburdened and this in turn relieves the pressure on the defence.

As a result we're less exposed and are better at keeping possession as there is less panic when on the ball, such is Cork's reluctance to just 'get rid' when under pressure. He's calm and prepared to find the right ball – and he has the technique to do so.

Now, bear with me on this next point, but the Cork-Schneiderlin

axis reminds me of the best midfield partnership I have seen in recent years – Oakley and Delap.

Delap was the grafter, doing the dirty work while Oakley was the platform to get things started going forward.

They complemented each other superbly, so I think it's no coincidence our slide towards relegation coincided with Matt Oakley being out injured for so long and Delap being shunted all over the pitch to cover a variety of positions, from right back to a brief cameo up front on one bizarre occasion.

The difference with the incumbents of our midfield to Delap and Oakley are that they can both do the beautiful and the nasty with an equal amount of ability.

Obviously we can't keep them together in all games this season – suspensions and injuries are inevitable, but all teams suffer those problems so we'll just have to deal with them – hopefully better than we did at the start of the season.

But finally we can make the most of the undoubted attacking talent at our disposal.

For that reason, other than Rickie Lambert, it's hard to think of a signing that has been better value for money than Jack Cork.



WELCOME BACK: Jack Cork.

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
KELVIN DAVIS	4	0	1	0	278	0
PAULO GAZZANIGA	8	0	2	0	10	0
ARTUR BORUC	2	0	0	0	2	0
NATHANIEL CLYNE	13	1	0	0	13	1
DANNY BUTTERFIELD	0	0	2	0	50(4)	0
FRAZER RICHARDSON	2(1)	0	2	0	57(9)	0
DANNY FOX	7(2)	1	0	0	46(6)	1
LUKE SHAW	4(1)	0	1(1)	0	5(3)	0
RYAN DICKSON	0	0	0	0	9	0
JOSE FONTE	14	2	0	0	129(1)	12
JOS HOOIVELD	5(2)	0	2	0	48(2)	8
MAYA YOSHIDA	10(1)	0	1	0	11(1)	0

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
JACK STEPHENS	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0
DAN SEABORNE	0	0	3	0	38(15)	0
STEVE DE RIDDER	0	0	2	0	12(27)	4
RICHARD CHAPLOW	0(1)	0	3	0	50(12)	5
DEAN HAMMOND	0	0	1	0	130(15)	11
JACK CORK	4	0	1	0	71(8)	0
MORGAN SCHNEIDERLIN	13	2	0	0	143(28)	5
ADAM LALLANA	14	2	0	0	188(19)	49
STEVE DAVIS	9(3)	1	0	0	9(3)	0
JAMES WARD-PROWSE	4(3)	0	3	0	9(3)	1
JASON PUNCHEON	11	2	1	1	55(4)	6
GULY DO PRADO	3(4)	0	2	0	71(23)	22

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
RICKIE LAMBERT	12(2)	6	0	0	163(9)	94
JAY RODRIGUEZ	7(5)	1	1	2	8(5)	3
EMMANUEL MAYUKA	0(6)	0	1	0	1(6)	0
GASTON RAMIREZ	7(1)	2	0	0	7(1)	2
BILLY SHARP	0(2)	0	1	1	12(6)	10
TADANARI LEE	0	0	2	1	7(4)	2
SAM HOSKINS	0	0	0(2)	0	0(2)	0
CALUM CHAMBERS	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0
BEN REEVES	0(3)	0	1(2)	1	4(9)	1
ANDY ROBINSON	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0
LLOYD ISGROVE	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0

KEY: LA: league appearances. LG: league goals. CA: cup appearances. CG: cup goals. CSA: career Saints appearances. CSG: career Saints goals.

Adam Rant



This week's big talking points
with **Adam Leitch**



Wrong to ignore Pardes' work

NOBODY should ever forget that as daft and sentimental as it might be, history and tradition counts for a lot in football.

The sport might be a business nowadays and some might think that means there is no place for sentimentality.

But this is a business built on 22 men kicking an air filled pig's bladder around a bit of grass.

The whole thing is a bit crazy.

All right, Alan Pardew, pictured

left, might have drifted apart from Nicola Cortese in the end of his time at Saints, but for Nigel Adkins to say the club don't owe Pardew anything was a bit disappointing.

Pardew has been a major figure in the past few years of success at Saints, thanks largely to the way he turned things around and left Adkins such a strong squad with which the current boss has done quite brilliantly.

Saints don't technically owe Pardew anything, but football is

about history and tradition.

Adam Rant would hope that in years to come if Adkins returns to Saints with another club his achievements will be recognised, and that he should be welcomed back to Scunthorpe too after what he did there.

But then, looking at the Matt Le Tissier situation, a man whose past is interwoven into the fabric of the club, it should be no real surprise.

A bit of perspective could go a long way in these instances.

Long handles are putt in their place

GOLF may not be the quickest sport on the planet to react to change.

But they have finally done the right thing by outlawing broomhandle and belly putters.

The technical terms state that any anchoring of the putter, rather than any individual type of putter, will be forbidden when the new rules kick in, albeit even that happens at snail's pace as it's not until 2016.

The broomhandle putter allows a golfer to anchor the top of their long putter to their chest.

The belly putter? Well, the clue's in the name.

This move should have happened when they first started to appear.

It's crazy it's taken this long, but the decision is correct.

Part of the joy of any sport, particularly any individual sport, is watching how its top competitors deal with pressure.

Nowhere in the world of golf is this more keenly exposed than standing on a green striving to finish off a hole.

'The yips' have affected many a player down the years and seen many a tournament end in dramatic fashion as one golfer lets their nerves get the better of them and can't putt properly.

A bit of this is without doubt eliminated by being able to anchor your putter and thus not have the effect of the wobbly hands so much.

The truth is that for a long time the use of these putters was confined to a group of relatively unsuccessful players, mainly elder statesmen clinging on to the tour without the steady hand of youth on their side.

As such, the authorities didn't seem moved to do much about it.

Times have changed.

Three of the last five majors have been won by players who use putters in a way that would be outlawed by the new rules. It has to stop.

Technical advances in equipment is one thing you are never going to end, and always lends a degree of foggy over debates over the greatest players from era to era.

But to actually allow those technical advances to move to a stage where they are changing the face of the game is unacceptable.

This rule should have happened years ago, but at least it's on its way now.

Eur having a laugh!

IF ANY further evidence were needed that football will eat itself then see the latest bonkers proposal - expanding the Champions League.

Apparently the Europa League is not all that popular with clubs - for that read too many games, not enough cash.

So, what's the solution?

Yes, let's make the Champions League even more cumbersome.

Hopefully this proposal will be neatly filed in the bin.

Revamping, or perhaps even doing away with, the Europa League is surely the way to go if it's really that bad.

Today's football world is governed by economics.

There is big money to be made in the Champions League, so that's where everybody wants to be.

The format would appear to be plenty big enough already - four English teams.

Hardly the champions. But apparently not.

Extra revenue

Those envious clubs in the Europa League are not content with a bit of extra revenue.

Oh no, for the heady heights of having finished seventh, they want to be rewarded with yet more millions than they already are getting by gate-crashing the big time.

That can surely be the only thing driving this latest idea being kicked around UEFA.

Not even they can surely believe that the footballing public want to watch so many more meaningless group matches, that the value of the brand they have built up as the Champions League will survive the fourth best team in Norway taking on the third best in Holland.

Actually, knowing some



LANGUAGE BARRIER! Marseille midfielder Joey Barton, centre - who this week conducted a press conference in an 'Allo 'Allo! style French accent - in UEFA Europa League group action.

of football's madcap decisions, maybe they do.

Adam Rant does have sympathy with clubs having to play on Thursday nights, that they feel they can't have the squad size

they need to compete on all fronts because they don't get enough money for the Europa League and that it plays merry hell with the domestic fixture schedule.

But, if it's that much of a

problem, do away with it.

Or, even better, just make it a knockout competition again rather than having a pointless group stage.

Bet that won't be popular, though.

You see, some extra money is better than none. But then loads is better than some.

It's football's ever less appealing mantra these days.

SOUTHERN
Daily Echo

FIND THE BALL



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FIND THE BALL is a test of skill and football knowledge and is open to readers of the Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset Echos, Brighton Argus and Sunday Independent, Plymouth.

You have to use your skill and judgement to determine the exact centre of the ball.

Mark an X with a ballpoint pen on the picture where you consider that position to be – clear rubber stamps and self adhesive labels will also be accepted.

Every coupon will be carefully examined and the jackpot prize will be paid to the entrant whose cross marks the exact centre of the ball when the photograph was taken.

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If the Jackpot is not won after 45 weeks, when standing at £50,000, three nearest miss prizes will be awarded totalling £24,000 – with a first prize of £12,000, a second prize of £8,000 and a third prize of £4,000.

The jackpot for the following week will be £26,000 with £1,000 being added each week. The nearest miss prize will be £2,000 with £50 added each week until the jackpot prize reaches £50,000.

If there is still no entry showing the exact centre of the ball, the process is repeated until there is an exact centre of the ball winner.

If there is more than one winner the jackpot will be shared and, similarly, if there is more than one runner-up the nearest miss prize will also be shared.

RESULTS



CLOSING DATE FOR POSTAL ENTRIES
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2012
Names of winners will be published on
Saturday,
8 December
or Sunday
9 December
2012

Winners

Competition number **S46**

JACKPOT WINNER NO WINNER

CONGRATULATIONS

Mr W Massey Plymouth, Devon
who wins the Runner Up prize of £1,100

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Mr J Burt, Southampton, Hants	Mr P Jaques, Eastleigh, Hants
Mrs H Cassell, Southampton, Hants	Mr G Marsh, Southampton, Hants
Mr R Charlton, Southampton, Hants	Mr D Shawyer, Fareham, Hants
Ms N Davis, Southampton, Hants	Mr K Smith, Southampton, Hants
Miss P Ferguson, Southampton, Hants	Mrs M Shergrove, Lymington, Hants
Mr J Franklin, Southampton, Hants	Mrs M Thomas, Eastleigh, Hants
Mr N Frost, Fareham, Hants	Miss L Wainwright, Bournemouth, Dorset
Mrs J Jefferies, Hedge End, Hants	Mr K Wyre, Southampton, Hants
Mrs J Greenwood-Winn, Southampton, Hants	Mrs J Young, Southampton, Hants

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1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 325 per coupon. Coupons with 326 or more will be disqualified. Entries altered defaced or mutilated will be invalid. Crosses must be distinct and separate. **2.** Competitors may submit as many coupons as they wish. Members of a family can send their entries in one envelope with a covering postal order or cheque. **3.** No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. **4.** Payment may be made by postal order or cheque for the correct amount payable to Newsquest, and crossed 'X & Co.' Stamps **will not** be accepted in payment. **5.** A competitor cannot win more than one share of the prize money across all titles each week. **6.** The Editor's decision on winning entry or entries and matters relating to this competition is binding in honour only. **NO CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE ENTERED INTO.** **7.** Employees of NEWSQUEST Media Group and subsidiary companies and members of their families are not eligible to enter the competition. **8.** Address entries to FTB PO Box 24 Competitions, Southampton SO16 9ZD in a sealed envelope. Understamped entries are not accepted. **9.** Prize monies are held for and on behalf of winners. **10.** Do not send cash in the post. **11.** Winners will be required to participate in publicity. **12.** Photocopies not accepted. **13.** For rules go to www.dailyecho.co.uk/promotions/rules, www.newsquest.co.uk/terms or write in for a copy.

An incident in a Winchester v Yate Town match

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Daily Echo

Non-league Action

EASTLEIGH 1 - 3 WELLING UNITED

McAllister strike in vain

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

EASTLEIGH'S hopes of returning victorious after a two-week lay-off were scuppered by Welling United at the Silverlake Stadium.

The Spitfires took an early lead through Craig McAllister, but the high-flying Wings hit back for a 3-1 Blue Square Bet South win.

It was Eastleigh's first home league defeat under manager Richard Hill and their third loss on the bounce in all competitions.

The Spitfires welcomed goalkeeper Jack Dovey back following Ross Flitney's recall by Gillingham, while loan man Jamie Hand was dropped to the bench.

The game got off to a slow start, but Welling provided early evidence of their passing ability with a sweet seventh-minute move that ended with Kiernan Hughes-Mason firing straight at Dovey.

But it was Eastleigh who took the lead two minutes later when Damian Scannell drove forward from mid-field and, with the visitors' defence stretched, played in Jai Reason on the left. He looked up and spotted the run of CRAIG McALLISTER, giving him the simple task of slotting home at the back post.

The Wings responded with a burst of 16th-minute pressure when Scott Kinch's long ball forward deflected into the path of Hughes-Mason whose shot was beaten away, leading to back-to-back corners.

Just prior to that, Welling had somewhat optimistically looked in the referee's direction for a penalty when Mitchell Nelson leant on Joe Healy as he defended a free kick.

The visitors continued to force corners but produced nothing to unduly worry the Spitfires until the 28th minute when influential player-manager Jamie Day fed Ross Lafayette down the left. The big number ten brought it under control instantly and slipped a first-time shot just past Dovey's left-hand upright.

Eastleigh bided their time and produced another excellent chance on 34 minutes.

Reason worked hard to hold the ball up before laying it off to Scannell whose thunderous goal-bound strike from the right of the area was tipped over by keeper Sam Mott.

Still the Welling corners kept coming but, with Eastleigh getting bodies behind the ball, there was



Eastleigh scorer Craig McAllister keeps his eye on the ball. Pic: Stuart Martin

no real finesse to the visitors' finishing.

And on 42 minutes the Spitfires almost caught them on the break again when Dale Binns wove his way across from the left and skilfully bypassed Welling's giant skipper and centre-back Ben Martin before Mott managed to block with his legs.

Then just before half-time another bout of Eastleigh pressure resulted in Reason's low drive ricocheting just wide of Mott's left-hand post.

The first ten minutes of the second half were pretty uneventful, but the drop in tempo proved Eastleigh's undoing and, out of nowhere, the Wings

equalised on 56 minutes.

Lafayette was allowed too much time to work the ball across from the left before laying it off for KINCH to strike from just outside the area.

On 65 minutes Eastleigh boss Richard Hill made his first substitution, sending on Hand in place of new dad Scannell.

But less than two minutes later the Spitfires fell behind in bizarre fashion when Day's deep free kick was allowed to ping menacingly around the area and big centre-back ANTHONY ACHEAMPONG flung himself forward to head it past the under-pressure Dovey.

It could have got worse for Eastleigh on 76 minutes, but

Hughes-Mason shot wastefully wide, having been played in by more good work from Lafayette.

But Welling made their growing supremacy count two minutes later when, following good play by Day, HUGHES-MASON skipped past the challenge before slotting the ball past Dovey.

The Spitfires did their best to respond, but skipper Glen Southam's hard, low strike from distance was securely gathered by Mott.

Then on 88 minutes Binns scampered away down the right and passed inside to Reason who, in turn, set up McAllister. But the big target-man drove the ball straight into the body of Mott as the keeper closed him down.

Pike sees red over Red Insure Cup loss

GOSPORT Borough manager Alex Pike accused the Evo-Stik league of failing to look after his players following their 1-0 defeat at Sholing on Wednesday night, writes JOE WATSON.

Boro' were knocked out of the Red Insure Cup in the second round and the competition rules stipulate all teams must field seven players that started in their last two league games.

This forced Pike into using four players who were carrying injuries.

And, after seeing his side crash out of the cup thanks to a Jamie Musselwhite goal, the manager blasted: "It is a ridiculous rule."

"When someone sues the league for breaching the duty of care towards the players then the league might reconsider the rule."

"They have got to have a look at this rule."

"They have to get some common sense."

"I'm very disappointed in the fact that I had to start seven players, four of whom have tight hamstrings."

"Consequently

two of them have pulled out with injuries which will hit us in the league, which is ridiculous."

"I have a duty of care to my players and I'm not allowed to give them that duty of care because I have to play them."

"The league is not allowing us to look after our players. We know our players and we should make that decision, not the league."

Pike is demanding the league make changes before it impacts on a club's league performance and a player gets hurt.

He added: "The secretary and chairman will make representations to the league."

"Justin Bennett is the third top goal scorer in the league, if I lose him then that will be a massive blow. "We considered taking a player off early, thankfully I had seven starting in the end."

"We were going to change the goalkeeper after 30 seconds. "Poole Town and AFC Totton have also done it and that devalues the competition even further."

"The Red Insure Cup is never a priority of mine or the club's."

"It costs clubs a lot of money to enter it. We want to use this competition to blood young players and give them the experience, but I can't do that."

"I can do it in The FA Cup and The FA Trophy, but I can't do it in the Red Insure Cup. Why is the Red Insure Cup more important?"

"I'm relieved we won't have all the expense of travelling and playing in a worthless competition."



ALEX PIKE

Davies off as Stags lose

AFC TOTTEN endued a miserable afternoon as they lost 2-1 at Evostik Southern Premier promotion favourites Leamington.

After a scrappy opening it was the Stags who almost went ahead on 12 minutes when a close range shot by Richard Gillespie cannoned off the legs of Leamington keeper Niall Cooper.

But the home side immediately broke away and Ricky Johnson's low cross was swept in by Lee CHILTON. Then, with 26 minutes gone, Totton were awarded a penalty after Gillespie was dragged down by Cooper but Mike Gosney's spot kick was saved by the home keeper. GOSNEY made amends for his miss ten minutes after the

break when he rifled in the Stags leveller from 25-yards. But midway through the second period the home side were back in front when Matty DODD turned in the box and drilled in past Gareth Barfoot.

It got worse for the Stags on 70 minutes, when Jonathan Davies received a red card for a rash challenge.

And with five minutes left Ross Bottomley was stretched off with an injury. In Southern League division one (S & W), SHOLING threw away a 2-0 half-time lead at Taunton. The Boatmen scored twice inside the first 20 minutes through Pete Castle and an own goal following an excellent run and cross from

Marvin McLean. But after pulling a goal back through Simon Ingram's free-kick, Taunton equalised on the hour when Sholing defender Lee Bright deflected in a shot that was going well wide. Winchester City lost 3-0 at home to Merthyr Town after trailing 1-0 at half-time.

Non-league Football

Non-league News

Town's light relief ...

WIMBORNE Town were grateful for being plunged into darkness last Saturday. Steve Cuss's, pictured, Magpies were trailing 3-0 at Evesham United when the Southern One South & West game fell victim to a flood-light failure.

The lights went out on 38 minutes with Evesham having struck three times in the opening half-hour through debutant Carl Brown (2) and Henry Eze.

Evesham spent a further half-hour trying to resolve the problem but their attempts were unsuccessful. It left the referee no option but to abandon the game – much to the disappointment of a 306 home crowd.

'Church sign ex-Saint

FORMER Saints trainee Sam Argent has signed for Sydenhams One club Whitchurch United.

Argent, pictured, began his career at St Mary's and was a regular for Saints academy and under-21 sides between 2008 and 2011.

In July 2011 he joined Hayes & Yeading, then of the Conference National, and made his debut in a 3-1 win over Alfreton Town on August 13.

While at Hayes, he linked up with former Saints teammates Jack Saville, who had a loan spell there, and Portuguese midfielder Pele who is still part of the H&Y squad.

Argent, who briefly signed for Winchester City this season, is working closely with the Whitchurch physio as he works his way back from injury. He expects to make his United debut very soon.

Quarter-final switch

Wimborne's Dorset Senior Cup quarter-final clash against Dorchester Town has been rearranged for this coming Tuesday (December 4, 7.45pm).



Killick excited by Cann progress

MANAGER Tom Killick is hopeful Dan Cann can provide a major boost to Poole Town's promotion hopes – by returning ahead of schedule.

Poole had feared the former Cherries trainee would miss the entire campaign after he ruptured anterior cruciate ligaments in the Southern One South & West play-offs.

But the Dolphins striker has made excellent progress following major knee surgery during the close-season. He is back in training and set to defy medical predictions by returning to action early in the new year.

Should Cann's fight for fitness continue at its current rate, Killick expects him to be fully up and running in time for the league run-in as Poole aim to go one bet-

ter than last season's agonising play-off final defeat by Gosport Borough.

"If he was playing by the end of January and perhaps then took another month to get himself match fit, hopefully we would have him for the last few months of the season in a strong position mentally and physically," said Killick.

"That would be a huge boost if we could have that."

Cann, often an influential figure as a hard-working lone forward, scored 16 goals for Poole last term.

But he was forced to go under the knife after sustaining a serious knee problem in the play-off semi-final against Hungerford.

Now, though, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

"Dan joined in with a couple of

the fitness and gym sessions and did the warm-up before the Merthyr game," reported Killick. "Then, last Monday, he joined in training fully for the first time."

"Professional players have a significant advantage in their rehabilitation to come back from injuries like this in that they can devote their whole lives to it and get a lot of support and assistance."

"At our level it is much more down to the player to try to make himself fit."

"Dan has showed real commitment to that and dedication to it."

"He is probably ahead of schedule because of his own determination and commitment."

"He has done brilliantly to get to this point, but I still don't expect to see him playing again until the end of January."



AHEAD OF SCHEDULE: Dan Cann, right.

Salisbury's Silver service

FORMER Salisbury City striker Jason Silver was the hat-trick hero of Petersfield Town's 5-0 Sydenhams One slaying of Andover New Street last Saturday.

The match – one of just two in the division to survive the heavy rain – turned conclusively in Petersfield's favour when Silver scored twice and Callum Coker once between the 18th and 23rd minutes.

Silver, a soldier recently back from duty in Afghanistan, then turned provider for Coker to make it 4-0 on 31 minutes before finishing the demolition job himself with the only goal of the second half.

According to Petersfield boss Ian Saunders, Silver, pictured – who also featured for Gosport Borough – has given his promotion-chasing side "an added dimension".

"He possesses blistering pace and has a great eye for goal," said the Love Lane chief.

Given the dreadful conditions, Petersfield were just glad the game went ahead, enabling them to climb to fourth in the table in the slipstream of Cowes Sports, Team Solent and Brockenhurst.

"Both sides deserve enormous credit for still trying to play good football in what were appalling conditions throughout the game," said club official Graeme Moir.

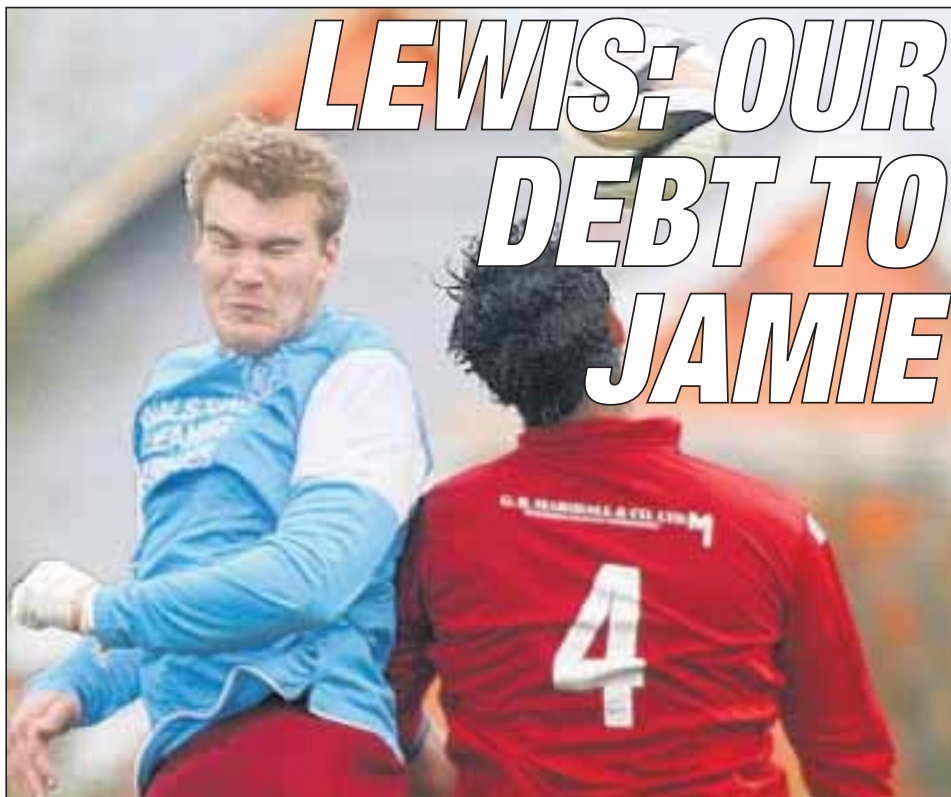
"The rain poured down from start to finish, but the officials were hardly called upon during what was a relatively free-flowing game of football."

"Credit must go to the match official who handled the difficult decision of whether the game should go ahead or not extremely well on his arrival."

"Andover's ground staff also worked in the pouring rain to make final preparations to the pitch to ensure the game could go ahead."



LEWIS: OUR DEBT TO JAMIE



GE HAMBLE joint manager Dave Lewis has paid tribute to Jamie Musselwhite for three-and-a-half years' outstanding service at Follands Park.

Although naturally disappointed to lose the 30-year-old targetman, pictured, to Southern League neighbours Sholing, Lewis and co-boss Paul Cotton will never forget how important he has been in establishing the Planemakers as a Sydenhams Premier force.

Musselwhite's prolific 'Batman and Robin' partnership with Ashley Jarvis was one of the most feared on the Wessex scene with the big man not only putting his strength to good use to occupy defenders but also chipping in with a shed load of goals.

"Jamie's move to Sholing materialised out of the blue and it's some consolation to know

that he has gone to a higher league because he deserves to test himself at that level," said Lewis. "He will smash that league up."

"We're in a food chain and with Hamble's status being below Sholing's, inevitably good players will want to play higher, especially someone like Jamie."

"You tell me of another striker that can lead the line and carry the weight of the team on his shoulders like he does and still get 35 goals a season!"

"We've had three-and-a-half great years from Jamie and he's probably had two average games in that time, which is phenomenal."

"His fighting qualities are there for all to see, but people sometimes forget what a good footballer he is."

"He's an all-action hero."

Hamble have bolstered their ranks by signing winger Alex Mirov from title rivals Moneyfields.

TURN TO BACK PAGE FOR TODAY'S NON-LEAGUE RESULTS

Non-league Football

Barker hails Town's friendly fire

ROMSEY Town boss Danny Barker was a happy man on Wednesday after his young side had stood up to Blue Square Bet South outfit Eastleigh in a hastily arranged friendly at the Bypass Ground, writes KERRY MILLER.

"We were delighted to be able to test ourselves against such a prestige side and to be able to help them out," he said.

"We have been up against it recently in the league and this was excellent experience for us."

Eastleigh won 4-0, but until they began rotating their strong squad in the second half it was only a speculative 40-yard volley from Jai Reason with the last kick of the first half which separated the sides.

Midfielder Stuart Green stood out for the home team and both Rich Hayter and Elliot Richards had good nights as the Sydenhams Premier basement boys refused to capitulate while playing some good football when they were allowed.

"We can only go forward from here and I believe we have enough quality to start to climb the division, but the players have now got to do it week in and week out," said Barker.

His defence had a busy night coping with winger Dale Binns and, with Reason, Craig McAllister and Lee Peacock all in forward roles, goals were expected in full supply.

But a mixture of profligate finishing and some fine saves from home keeper Elliot Broome meant the second goal didn't come until 15 minutes from time – and that from a poor back pass.

Indeed on the hour, with the score still 1-0, Green found room on the lumpy pitch to find young wing-back Pete Walker in the move of the match and his superb first-time cross just evaded the diving Jack Garner.

Defender Sam McCarthy was then helped off with what looked like a painful calf injury and Reason added two more to complete his hat-trick before McAllister nodded in the fourth from almost on the goal-line.

"We have no game this weekend, said



HAT-TRICK HERO: Jai Reason, right.

Barker. "But we have to go to Hayling United on Tuesday and that will be another test for us."

Having been unable to play – or even train – due to the recent wet weather, Eastleigh were delighted to get a game.

"We were rusty for an hour, but can only benefit from the 90 minutes and I was able to try out a few things," said

manager Richard Hill.

"If we were a full-time club we could have had a mixed game behind closed doors."

"But after the Witney Town game was called off on Tuesday, Romsey kindly stepped in and I would like to thank Danny Barker and his staff for their help."



DANNY BARKER

Non-league News

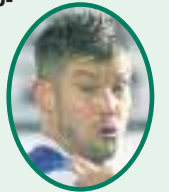
Rogers leaves Town
FORMER Eastleigh midfielder Scott Rogers has parted company with Evo-Stik Southern Premier outfit Chippenham Town.

The 33-year-old, pictured below, signed for the Bluebirds after moving on from Eastleigh during the summer, but has now left the Hardenhuish Park outfit due to work commitments.

Chippenham boss Nathan Rudge, who had made Rogers captain, said: "It's always a disappointment to lose a player, but he has to do what he has to do."

Rogers was appointed Chippenham skipper after their opening-day defeat to Hemel Hempstead Town and went on to make 16 appearances for the Wiltshire club, scoring once in the FA Cup first qualifying round win over Mangotsfield in September.

A vastly experienced campaigner, the former Exeter, Bristol City, Forest Green Rovers and Weymouth man had signed for Eastleigh from Newport County in December last year and made 11 starts for the Spitfires in the Blue Square Bet South.



Horner takes reins
SYDENHAMS One outfit Amesbury Town have had a change of manager.

Replacing the departed Jason Mussellwhite at the Bonnymead Park helm is stalwart club defender Gareth Horner.

Mussellwhite was appointed Blues boss in the summer, aged just 26, but the Wiltshire club have endured a torrid start to the season and sit just one off the foot of the table.

They have now turned to Horner whose father, Nick, enjoyed two spells as Amesbury manager.

He will be assisted by Ian Jones, who was boss towards the end of last season.

Horner's first game in charge didn't go to plan with Amesbury caned 12-0 at Corsham in the Wiltshire Senior Cup.

Saints link up shows Eastleigh progress – Hill



EASTLEIGH have announced a new partnership with Premier League neighbours Southampton.

Starting with the visit of Newcastle United on Monday, December 17 (7pm), Saints will be playing some of their Barclays Under-21 Premier League fixtures at Eastleigh's Silverlake Stadium home.

Additionally, the two clubs' youth programmes will share ideas on how to develop local youth football.

Eastleigh boss Richard Hill, pictured left, said: "This is a positive move for the club and it says a lot about Eastleigh and where we are going that Southampton approached us."

"We have a Premier League club on our doorstep and it is imperative we have strong links and be in pole position when any mutually beneficial opportunities arise in the future."

"Likewise we want to have close links with as many local clubs as possible."

Les Reed, executive director of Saints' Football Development & Support Centre, hailed the club's new agreement with the Blue Square Bet South promotion hopefuls.

"This is a great opportunity for our two clubs to form a relationship which benefits football in and around the Southampton community," he said.

Saints' under-21s are battling for a place in the Elite Group Stage of the Professional Development League and will play more home games at the Silverlake after Christmas.

They currently play in one of three National Groups which consists of the 22 teams who applied for Category One status under the Premier League's Elite Player Performance Plan.

Competitions rules state that teams can name three over-age outfield players plus an over-age goalkeeper in any match day squads. The likes of Artur Boruc, Danny Butterfield, Tadanari Lee, Ryan Dickson and Jonathan Forte have already featured.

Non-league Football

Non-league News

All change at Lavvy
SYDENHAMS One club Laverstock & Ford have welcomed in a new management team – both on and off the pitch.

Local man John Pike has taken over as club chairman following Lavvy's controversial decision to part company with Gino Nardiello who had spent nearly nine years at Church Road.

Team-wise Andy Wykes, who managed the club in 2009, has returned to the helm in place of joint team bosses Robbie Elliott and Ryan Chard who were among a mass exodus of staff at the beginning of last month.

Joining Wykes, pictured, on the management team are former Laverstock player and Downton assistant manager Rae Hughes and Chris Burden, a well respected player and coach with the Wiltshire club.

Last Saturday Laverstock clocked up their second win of the Sydenhams One campaign – and kept their first clean into the bargain.

Jordan Caira's 12th-minute header was enough to see off Ringwood Town 1-0 at the Canotec Stadium.

"It was an excellent performance and I'm very, very pleased," beamed Wykes, pictured above.

"There were atrocious conditions and maybe Ringwood were so keen to play it because they thought they would beat us, but the boys did well.

"We set out defensively because we have let in a lot of goals lately and the conditions weren't conducive to good football."

Good times on way
PETE Alvis is confident he can revive Ringwood Town's flagging fortunes – but admits it will take time.

"The performances are coming and we will get there," he said.

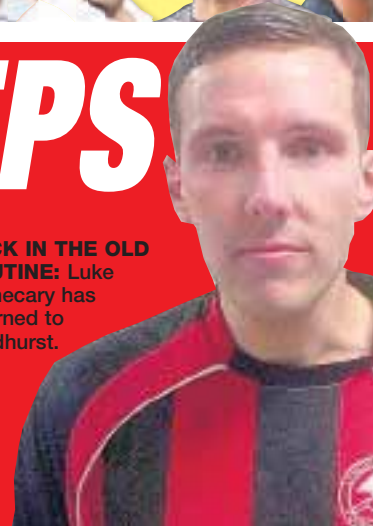
"We had almost started our pre-season when we took over, but every week we are trying to add a new face with quality.

"We are trying to progress the team and it will be a long drawn-out thing throughout the season. Hopefully results will start to get better."



POTHECARY KEEPS LYNDHURST IN RUDE HEALTH

BACK IN THE OLD ROUTINE: Luke Potthecary has returned to Lyndhurst.



Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

MAGNATA Care Hampshire League 2004 leaders Lyndhurst have been boosted by the return of Luke Potthecary.

After a three-year absence, Potthecary made his comeback in the recent 2-1 win at Infinity which continued Lyndhurst's unbeaten start to the league campaign.

"We are receiving calls from players every week offering their services, but unless they are as good as we already have and fit a certain criteria, we turn them away. Luke ticks both boxes," said Lyndhurst chief Dave Elgram, who knew exactly what he was getting.

Potthecary made his county debut at Lyndhurst back in 2005 and, over the course of three seasons, played 55 first-team games, scoring 15 times.

In 2008/09 he drifted back into parks football due to work commitments and then joined Blackfield & Langley where he was part of the squad that won promotion to the Sydenhams Premier Division under ex-Saint Jon Gittens.

Last season he signed for AFC Stoneham in the Hampshire Premier League and lifted the Southampton Senior Cup against Bush Hill in St Mary's in April.

Potthecary announced his return to Lyndhurst by picking up the man-of-the-match award against Infinity even though he was withdrawn after 75 minutes due to tired legs.

"That was to be expected as he has only played three games this season," said Elgram.

"Once we get his fitness back to where it should be, we will have resigned a top player.

"Luke was training with Fareham for a few weeks, but we still have a core of players from his first stint with us and he has opted to join 'Team Lyndhurst'!

"Attracting players like Luke is testimony to how well we are doing so far and how ambitious this club is.

"We hope to tie up a new sponsorship deal over the next few weeks with a national company and we are also planning to create a ladies' section next season."

With six wins and a draw from



Howe on the look-out for next Austin

CHERRIES boss Eddie Howe believes the remarkable rise of Charlie Austin proves the importance of monitoring the non-League scene.

Howe was speaking after confirming that highly-rated Christchurch youngster Harry Cornick, below, had trained with Cherries this week and the 17-year-old subsequently scored in a friendly against Bristol Rovers.

Howe was the first man to notice Austin's potential when he handed the then Poole Town star a trial with Cherries.

Austin, pictured far left, and Howe went on to link up at Burnley after the striker had demonstrated his prolific goalscoring qualities with Swindon Town.

Howe said: "As Charlie proves, there are potential gems on your doorstep.

"We would never turn up our noses at the level people are playing at because certain abilities do transform themselves through the levels up through the football pyramid.

"I do think we have to use Charlie as a yardstick to say, potentially, there are players out there and you have to look at them if they come to your attention."



their first seven games, Lyndhurst have barely put a foot wrong in the league.

Their only defeat came in the Southampton Senior Cup against Hedge End Town when lack of numbers took its toll.

"We lost the game 2-0 but, with the team available on the day, we were happy to get away with that," said Elgram.

"We have been raving about the

strength of our squad all season and that came back and bite us on the bum!

"We were already without long-term injured Ben Boyce, Craig Barker and Chris Asteridge and that week we lost one of our keepers, Matt Sturgess, with a slipped disc and top goalscorer Andy Longland picked up a sprained knee the week before.

"Add that to Ash Baddams and

Pete Hurst having to work and we were bare bones."

Things got even worse on the morning of the match when Lyndhurst's other keeper, Simon Parker, was kept away by a family crisis.

"We ended up playing our best central defender in goal and another defender up front!" said Elgram. "I ended up running the line and we only had one sub!"

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Non-league Football



MIKEY HARRIS

Harris: we'll put things right

ASSISTANT manager Mikey Harris has promised Salisbury City fans the club will turn things around in the wake of last Saturday's shock 2-0 FA Trophy defeat at lower league Maidstone United.

"I'm disappointed in the manner of the defeat more than anything," admitted Darrell Clarke's right-hand man.

"They wanted it more than us and I'd like to apologise to all the Salisbury fans who made the trip.

"There are no excuses.

"We didn't turn up and no-one is more disappointed than us, but I really feel for our supporters.

"I can assure them that we'll do the best we can to put this right and focus on retaining our top

spot in the league.

"I'm confident we can go on and perform the way we have been all season."

Salisbury – leaders of the Blue Square Bet South – started as clear favourites against a Maidstone side who ply their trade two levels below them in the Ryman League Division One South.

But the Kent hosts stunned them twice late in the first half with Nick Humphrey netting a back header and Alex Flisher firing a 30-yard bullet past keeper Will Puddy seven minutes later.

Salisbury's best chance landed on the toes of newly-signed loanee Ricky Wellard from Cambridge United, but he smashed the wood-

work with a blistering strike from the edge of the box.

Hammersmith-born Wellard, 24, has featured in ten games for Conference National outfit Cambridge this season having spent three years with League Two outfit AFC Wimbledon for whom he played 28 games last term.

Salisbury boss Clarke said: "We're delighted to bring Ricky in on a month's loan. He has bags of experience and gives us excellent options in midfield.

"Ricky played against us in the Blue Square Premier for Wimbledon and is exactly the sort of player we are after. I'd like to thank our board and Cambridge United for making the deal possible."

£10m stadium plan will go ahead – Razzak

RAFI Razzak remains confident Basingstoke Town will begin the 2014/15 season in a new stadium.

The £10m project to relocate the Blue Square Bet South club to a purpose-built 5,000-capacity stadium on land to the west of the Hilton Basingstoke Hotel was unveiled a year ago this week.

Town have spent much of the year negotiating with Basingstoke & Deane Council, who own the area earmarked for the new stadium as well as some land at the club's current Camrose home.

The process has taken longer than club chairman Razzak expected but he hopes that, having come to an agreement last week, the two parties are now in a position to move forward.

"We are now moving to the next phase, which is more the legal part of the agreement," he said.

"That should be pretty straightforward and we hope to go on to the planning stage in the new year.

"I still believe we can have the club in the new stadium in time for the start of 2014/15."

The building of the new stadium would be funded from the development of the Camrose Ground. Razzak has been able to obtain a legal option to buy the land, most of which is currently leased from the Camrose Estate, and it would be turned into a retail park with the potential to create 300 jobs."

Gilkes is tops for Bristow



DEPARTED: Kevin Braybrook.

EX-READING wideman Michael Gilkes has replaced Jason Braybrook as assistant manager of Blue Square Bet South strugglers Basingstoke Town.

Gilkes, a former Barbados international who had a spell on loan with Saints in 1992, was previously Bobby Wilkinson's head coach at Southern One South & West outfit Hungerford Town.

Welcoming the 47-year-old to the Camrose Ground, Basingstoke boss Jason Bristow said: "He is a very experienced coach. He is someone I have known for a long time and I look forward to working with him."

With Basingstoke out of action since November 17, Gilkes, above, has not yet had the opportunity to join Bristow in the dugout.

But the manager reported:

"Michael has settled in really well and the players have taken to him.

"It is clear to see straight away that he will be a big character for us in the changing room as well as a big influence in training."

Bristow had been on the lookout for a new right-hand man since the departure of ex-Eastleigh and AFC Totton man Braybrook, who has taken up a scouting post at QPR.

Gilkes comes highly qualified having spent 13 years with Reading in the 1980s and 1990s and also played for Wolves and Millwall.

Since retiring as a player he has remained involved at Reading, working part-time at the club's academy.

Bristow admitted: "The dugout has been a lonely place of late without an assistant, but I have to thank the senior players who have done their best to help me out.

"They have really given me their backing, but it is good to have Michael on board."

Gilkes said: "It's a really positive step for me and I am grateful for the opportunity.

"Basingstoke Town is a football club I have a lot of respect for.

"I played in pre-season games there years ago and always thought it was a good club.

"I also have a lot of time and respect for Jason. We seem to share the same ideas and he is the main reason I have come to Basingstoke."

After the euphoria of reaching the BSB South play-offs last season, Town have made a poor start to 2012/13, but Gilkes believes they can turn things around.

"There are a lot of good things already in place," he said.

"Having a couple of weeks without a game gives us time to try a few things, have a look at the players and get the right balance."

Non-league News

Bennett on a roll
FORMER Andover and Eastleigh marksman Justin Bennett scored his fifth goal in consecutive games for Gosport Borough last Saturday.

It was enough to earn Alex Pike's men a precious Southern Premier point in a 1-1 draw at Stourbridge.

The game appeared to turn Borough's way midway through the first half when Stourbridge's Paul Lloyd was sent off following an off-the-ball incident

with ex-Eastleigh midfielder Jamie Brown.

But it was the ten-strong

Glassboys who seized the lead on 56 minutes when Luke Benbow beat visiting keeper Nathan Ashmore with a neat finish. Bennett, pictured above, who had already forced Stourbridge keeper Lewis Solly to save well with his legs, went close again before finally levelling with 15 minutes to play.

Former Saints, Havant and Eastleigh man Brett Poate curled a sublime ball around the home defence, inviting Bennett to run on and score.

The only blot on Borough's fightback was having Dan Woodward sent off at the death for a second bookable offence.

Rio's volley good show
TWO wonder goals left honours even in Tuesday's Sydenhams One derby clash between

Whitchurch United and Tadley Calleva at Longmeadow. In an excellent, end-to-end game it was visitors

Tadley who opened the scoring when Jason Kingston struck with a bullet shot from 40 yards after 27 minutes.

Whitchurch levelled in similarly spectacular fashion five minutes later when Pa Touray found Rio Francis, pictured, who volleyed home from 30 yards.

TURN TO PAGE 28 FOR PARKS FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Non-league Football

Brockenhurst are back on track – Lynes

CHAIRMAN Peter Lynes says Brockenhurst are on a much firmer financial footing as they look to clinch promotion back to the Sydenhams Premier Division, writes **ASHLEY FERRE**.

Lynes, who had previously spent seven years as general secretary at Grigg Lane, admitted he had plenty on his plate when he moved into the chair last February.

Asked how far the Badgers have come in the last few months, he said: "The club was in a poor shape financially which had to be sorted out, but we are now on a much firmer footing."

"All spending is under control after going through a financial restructuring exercise."

"One result of this was that we decided to disband the reserves, which has helped the finances."

Having been relegated from the Wessex top flight two seasons ago, Brock had hoped to bounce straight back last term, but finished shy of the promotion places in fifth spot.

"Unfortunately the first team were unable to keep up the pressure on the top clubs, but they did the club proud by reaching the final of the Wessex League Cup," said Lynes.

"This season, with retaining all but a few from last season and the addition of new players, we haven't been out of the top-three all season and credit to (team boss) John Pyatt, the support staff and the players for achieving this."

"Brockenhurst belong in the Premier Division and I strongly believe the club has the right manager, support staff and, above all, the right players to achieve promotion this season."

"It's going to be very tough at the top. With Cowes Sports taking early control of the division and, with the likes of Team Solent, Petersfield and Pewsey now pushing up the table, it isn't a place for the faint-hearted."

"But with the depth of our playing squad and a little luck, Brockenhurst will be up there at the end of the season."

Pyatt is also upbeat about Brock's prospects, but is preaching caution.

"The aim is, and always has been, to get promoted having been cruelly relegated two years ago," he said.

"But I don't like to get too carried away as there are at least half a dozen teams that can win our league and there is still a long way to go."

Having been beaten by Christchurch in the League Cup final last season, Brock remain on course to go one better this term.

Pyatt's men are through to the semi-finals after seeing off Premier new boys AFC Portchester 1-0 at Grigg Lane on Wednesday.

Darren Ritchie's 25-yard half-volley, scored early in the first half, proved decisive.

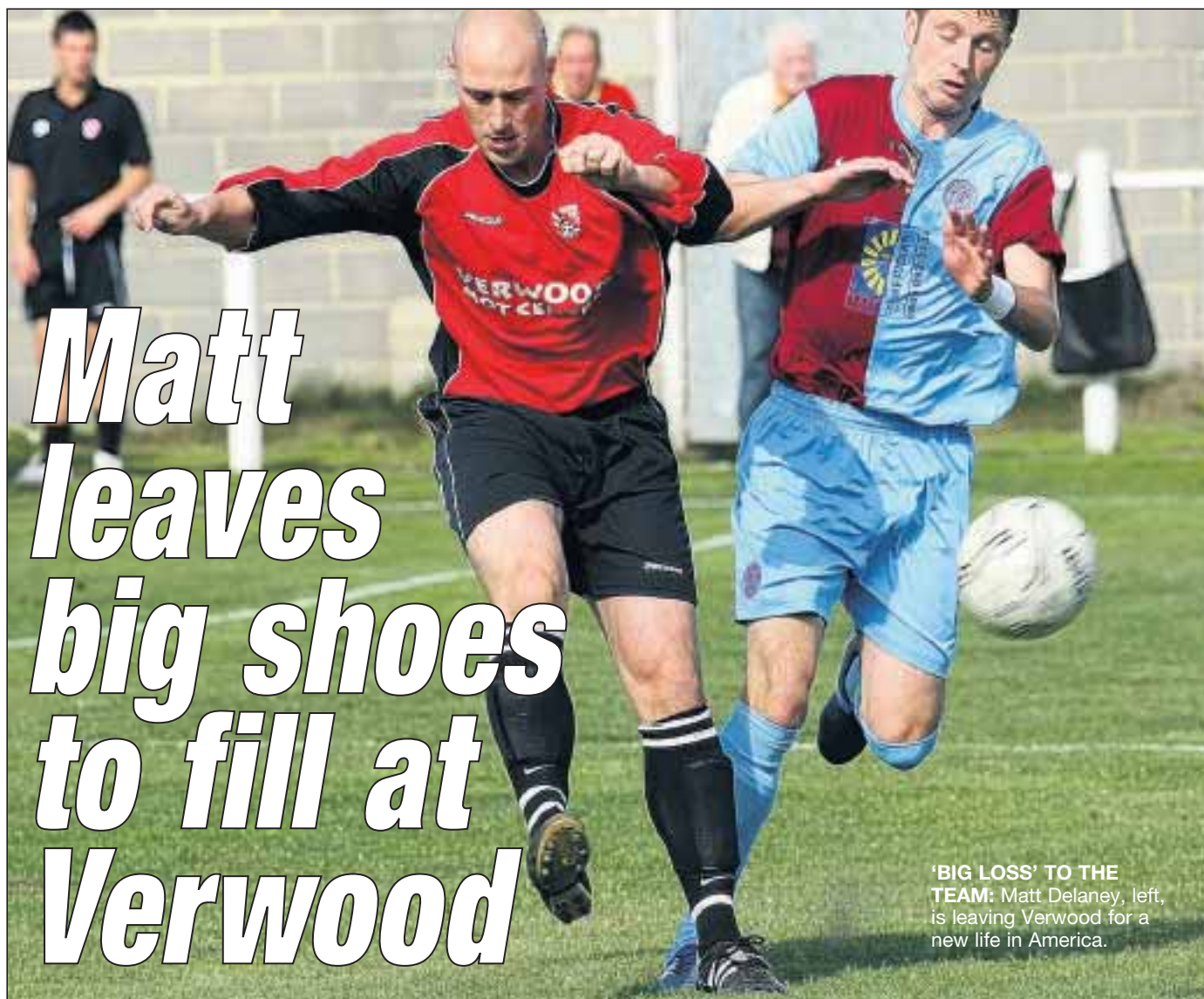
Brock join fellow Division One outfit East Cowes Vics in the semi-final draw and, by coincidence, were due to visit the Isle of Wight side in the league today.

Brock now lose centre-back James Vinton to a three-match suspension.

But, on the plus side, they have signed former Team Solent wideman Will Tickle from Portchester.



WILL TICKLE



Matt leaves big shoes to fill at Verwood

'BIG LOSS' TO THE TEAM: Matt Delaney, left, is leaving Verwood for a new life in America.

VERWOOD Town are trying to achieve the near impossible by finding a replacement for their soon-to-depart skipper **Matt Delaney**.

The combative central defender will be leaving Potterne Park at Christmas having decided to emigrate to Hudson, Massachusetts with his American fiancée Lindsay in the new year.

Delaney, who is due to fly to the United States in January, joined the Potters three years ago and led from the front as they lifted the Sydenhams One title last season and secured promotion to the Wessex top flight.

The 27-year-old Liverpoolian met Lindsay when the pair attended Southern New Hampshire University where Delaney did a three-year football scholarship.

Admitting Delaney would be a "big loss" to the side, Verwood's Southampton-based coach Andy Darnton said: "Matt's a centre-half, a natural leader and our linchpin at the back."

"We've known for quite a while that he'll be going, but he's one of our most consistent performers and

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER



it's a hard job to try and replace him."

Team boss Adie Arnold agreed: "We aren't the most vocal team in the league and Matt is our leader both on and off the pitch."

"As a manager, you need someone you can trust once the players have crossed the white line and Matt has been that man for us."

"I think he could have played at least a couple of leagues higher, but he has enjoyed his time with us and we have been very fortunate to have been able to hang onto him."

"He has an intimidating look about him. He is shaven-headed and can be quite scary when he shouts at people with his Liverpoolian accent. Behind that though, he is very quietly spoken and a really nice guy."

"Everywhere we go, other managers ask us where we got him and that is because he is such a good player. I wouldn't swap him for any other defender in the Wessex Premier."

Delaney, who also played for Bournemouth Poppies and Cobham Sports, hopes to rejoin Seacoast United Phantoms when he returns to America having captained the New Hampshire-based outfit during his university days.

An ever-present for Verwood this season, the defender said: "I am disappointed to be leaving halfway through the season but, having had my visa granted, I only have a few months in which to go."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with Verwood. Winning the league and playing in the Premier Division have been the main highlights."

One player who has already left Potterne Park is midfielder Gareth Batchelor.

Following a seven-day notice of approach from league rivals Bournemouth Poppies, the former Romsey Town man will be plying his trade at Victoria Park.

"Gareth's been a midfielder for us but I think he's signed for Poppies as a centre half," said Darnton, who coached Batchelor at Romsey last term.

"Gareth's an events manager and couldn't commit regularly to us in any case. He only played two or

three games for us and we weren't in a position to pay him money."

Having taken time to acclimatise to the Premier Division high-life, Verwood have steadily climbed to mid-table on the back of three wins and two draws from their last six games.

"We've got a tough five games coming up now against Moneyfields (today), Fawley, Bemerton, Downton and Christchurch but, if we apply ourselves properly, we can give most teams a run for their money," said Darnton.

"It took a bit of time for the lads to find their feet and gel together, but we're improving all the time. The 3-1 win at Totton & Eling was the best we've played as a team all season and today's game at Moneyfields will be a good benchmark of how we're coming on as a team."

More good news for Verwood is the construction of a 3G pitch next to their Potterne Park ground.

"It's council-owned, but we've got first refusal on it, which will be fantastic," said Darnton. "It will make our facilities even better."

"The surface is so flat that the players will have no excuses if passes go astray!"

MORE NON-LEAGUE IN MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO

Non-league Football

Downton injury blow

DOWNTON returned to the top of the Sydenhams Premier pile last Saturday – despite being held to a goalless home draw by title rivals Moneyfields.

The Robins' luck was out in the early stages with both winger Danny Urry (knee) and captain Josh Thomas (cut face) forced off injured.

But it was the home side who came closest to opening the scoring midway through the first half when Danny Finnigan's shot beat the 'keeper but not the post.

Moneyfields were not without opportunities – most notably when Jack Lee shot wide when through on goal – but could find no way past solid home keeper Charles Aldridge.

"It was the worst possible start as we

lost two key players," reflected Downton boss Jeff Softley.

"Danny Urry is on crutches and could be out for four weeks and Josh Thomas collided with a player and sustained a big cut under his eye, so he could be out for three weeks.

"In those circumstances it was a good point against a side like Moneyfields.

"They will be in the top five and could even win it.

"Danny Finnigan would have had a hat-trick for us on another day, but it wasn't to be."

Paying tribute to the way the game was officiated, Softley added: "The referee Mick Hunter was absolutely superb.

"There were sliding tackles in bad

conditions and some referees would have called it off, but he kept talking to the captains and did a good job."

Moneyfields boss Miles Rutherford was pleased to come away from the league leaders with a point, but felt it might have been three.

"The first half was probably the best we have played this season," he said.

"It was more even after the break, but I still think we edged it.

"I am disappointed not to come away with all three points.

"After a couple of disappointing displays, to go to a place like Downton and take a point in awful conditions has shown me the true capability of my lads. They have set a standard and they must continue to live up to it."



JEFF SOFTLEY

Cuss job going to plan

CHAIRMAN Ken Stewart is backing quiet man Steve Cuss to help Wimborne Town make a big noise by fulfilling their ambitious three-year plan.

Maggies are halfway through their project and Stewart believes boss Cuss has the credentials to complete the job – by launching a title bid next term.

Stewart has revealed that Cuss, pictured below, is already well on course to complete the second leg of the Maggies vision, which is to achieve a mid-table finish this season.

The Cuthbury chief, who has been at the club's helm for six years, also thinks Cuss can finish his mission by battling for honours during 2013-14.

Stewart was part of the Wimborne hierarchy which handed Cuss his first managerial role as Alex Browne's successor in April 2011.

And he is confident that the former Poole Town assistant is learning fast in Southern League Division One South & West.

"We are very pleased at the moment. When Steve Cuss came in, he was left with about three players. His remit was to keep us in the league, which he did last season," said Stewart.

"This season, we want to come around halfway then, next season, we want to look to go for the league. That is our three-year plan. I think that if we manage to keep the

team together, they can only improve as we've got a good bunch of players. If we do manage to get to the play-offs this season, that would be a bonus for us.

"We have got to walk before we run. We are on a budget here and Steve is doing well on the budget he has got. We are always on the look-out for good players. They have to be well priced – we don't pay silly money and Steve understands that."

While Stewart insists Wimborne will not break the bank, Cuss has used his local contacts and background as AFC Bournemouth's community chief to build a much-improved squad.

Allied to the proven non-league experience provided by the likes of Scott Arnold, Jason Harvell and Micky Hubbard, the youthful Maggies additions have helped the club to 10th position following a solid start to the current campaign.

However, Stewart admits greater funds could be required to help Cuss mastermind a promotion bid next term.

He added: "Steve is learning his trade very well and goes about it in a quiet way, unlike other managers, and we can look forward to a better future.

"We are realistic at this club and we know that to get to where we want to be will take time and, maybe, a bit more money.

"But we have got to have a good season and look at it at the end of the season."



Spitfires forced to concede in Moses tug-of-war

FROM the day Bridle Insurance walked into Eastleigh, the Spitfires have been saddled with the label of "the big spenders" of the Blue Square Bet South.

But since succeeding Ian Baird as manager in September, Richard Hill has worked hard to trim back the squad and drive the playing budget down.

And this week's departure of Moses Ademola to Dover Athletic proved that the Spitfires, though not exactly paupers, accept that every player has his price.

Although some Eastleigh fans were bemused by the club's decision to allow the 23-year-old winger to join one of their main Blue Square Bet South promotion rivals, Dover's financial muscle won the day.

Having rejected the Kent club's initial offer last week, Eastleigh showed their intent to keep Ademola at the Silverlake by offering him improved terms.

But when Dover came back with a substantially bigger second offer – more than double, according to Eastleigh director Stewart Donald – there seemed no point trying to block the move.

"I am disappointed to lose Moses, but we felt obliged to tell him about the offer and he asked to speak to Dover," Hill explained.

"We made a very competitive counter offer to keep him, but I will not stand in any player's way who wants to earn more money at another club.

"Likewise, this deal suits us financially."

Ademola joined Eastleigh on a long-term deal from Woking during the sum-

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER



mer, having turned down the chance to stay with Garry Hill's promoted BSB South champions.

He has made 13 starts and three sub appearances for the Spitfires, scoring seven goals.

"Moses is a superb lad who has conducted himself well. He is always very professional, very polite and I know this was a hard decision for him," said Hill.

"However, 90 per cent of young men would move companies for more money whether they are a footballer or a council worker."

Underlining Dover's determination to get their man, Whites' assistant manager Steve Brown said: "We made an enquiry, which was knocked back, we put in a bid that was also knocked back, and then the second one was accepted.

"Things materialised quite quickly after that.

"Moses is 23, which is a good age. It's possible he can get back into League football and hopefully it could be with us."

For all Eastleigh's good housekeeping of recent months, the perception of them having money to burn stubbornly refuses to go away – as Brown's interview in the local Kent press highlighted.

"Moses was someone we looked at in the summer, but his move to Eastleigh was done a long time ago," he said.

"You have to remember they have a huge squad and can pay enormous amounts of money."



EASTLEIGH EXIT: Moses Ademola has signed for Dover.

The America's Cup without Ainslie would be like Wimbledon without Djokovic ...



BEN Ainslie is the most successful Olympic sailor of all time.

The Lymington-based star won his fourth successive Games gold off Weymouth and Portland last summer, *writes SIMON CARTER*.

This week he revealed he won't be attempting to emulate Sir Steve Redgrave's Olympic tally of five golds in five consecutive Games in Rio in four years time.

Instead, Ainslie is concentrating his efforts on the America's Cup, desperate to be the man who helps bring one of the oldest trophies in world sport to England. If he was to achieve that, then surely it would go down in history as Ainslie's biggest sailing achievement.

In the same way that Bradley Wiggins' Tour de France win earlier this year transcended his Olympic gold medal winning performance, so Ainslie's place in sporting immortality would be cemented if he was involved in a successful America's Cup winning campaign.

Why? Well, look at it this way. The America's Cup was first staged in 1851 around the Isle of Wight, and there have been 33 stagings of the tournament. And England have never provided a winner.

Not once. It took until 1983 for America's run of victories to be brought to an end, Alan Bond's Australia II scoring a famous triumph. On winning, Bond quipped: 'Can we call it the Australia's Cup now?'

America have found it harder since then to keep on winning.

Team New Zealand won it in 1995 and 2000, while Swiss outfit Alinghi were winners in 2003 and 2007.

America regained the trophy three years ago, winning in Valencia, and now host the 34th edition of the competition at the iconically-named Golden Gate Yacht Club in San Francisco next February.

Ainslie will be competing as helmsman for defending champions Oracle Racing in a high speed 45-foot wing-sailed catamaran.

He is no stranger to the America's Cup, having taken part in three previous events.

After the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Ainslie joined the American 'One World Challenge'.

Post-Athens in 2004 he helped Team New Zealand lift the Louis Vuitton Cup.

Then he joined Sir Keith Mills start-up campaign Team Origin as skipper after his victory at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Earlier this year he set up J.P. Morgan Ben Ainslie Racing with a long-term vision of challenging for the 35th America's Cup.

"I am enjoying my sailing more now than perhaps ever," said Ainslie.

"I think would have found the motivation to continue for 2016 if I had chosen to do that, but really the America's Cup is the big goal to try and achieve as part of a winning team.

"That is the focus now and in the past I have been involved with the America's Cup and never really been focused 100 per cent due to Olympic commitments.

"Maybe there was a realisation there of 'if I am going to be successful and be part of a winning



NICE SILVERWARE: The America's Cup, left, Ben Ainslie is desperate to get his hands on. Ainslie will be sailing for Oracle next year, pictured here practising near the Golden Gate Bridge.

• The iconic America's Cup trophy was originally awarded in 1851 by Britain's Royal Yacht Squadron for a race around the Isle of Wight, to the schooner America.

• The trophy was renamed the America's Cup after the boat and was donated to the New York Yacht Club under the terms of the Deed of Gift, which made the Cup available for perpetual international competition.

• The Louis Vuitton Cup is a yachting competition connected with the America's Cup.

• The Louis Vuitton Cup is used as the selection series to select the team to sail as the challenger in the America's Cup.

• Four out of the six winners of the Louis Vuitton Cup have subsequently won the America's Cup itself.

team, I need to give 100 per cent focus'.

"I've always tried to have a plan of what I'm doing next after the Olympics.

"The 2012 Olympics was the focus, but from that has come the opportunity to be able to build a team which we hope can ultimately go on to challenge for the 35th America's Cup."

Ainslie is joining four-time America's Cup winner and Oracle Racing CEO Russell Coutts on board Oracle.

"With all the things that we are doing to improve the America's Cup commercially, I think this is a great time for someone like Ben to be laying the foundations for his own team," Coutts said earlier this year.

"With the massive improvements to televising the racing and staging it right where fans can see it,

there has never been a better arena for stars such as Ben."

Coutts added: "The America's Cup without Ben would be a little bit like Wimbledon without Rafael Nadal or Novak Djokovic."

Ben Ainslie Racing (BAR) will be entering the America's Cup World Series under the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club, which has supported the Olympian since the beginning of his career.

Ainslie said: "It's my home club; it's where I grew up. I've had so much support from the club over the years, it seemed a natural fit."

Ainslie might not be competing in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 but hopes to be there in a supporting role with the British sailing team.

Stephen Park, Royal Yachting Association Olympic manager, says the "door is always open"

for Ainslie, but the Lymington sailor would prefer any future involvement in the scenes.

"I don't expect to be taking on some big changes in the role," he said. "I don't expect that to be a huge part of the support of the people that coached me and were part of my team."

"Of course, I wish the team could continue being part of the role."

It has been quite a year for Ainslie, with only Olympic gold but also a race win on his home waters in Falmouth. This week saw him named as a contender for BBC Sports Personality of the Year.

"It is a special honour, especially an amazing year of sport in Britain. It is a real honour to be part of that amazing group and a part of that amazing evening."

"It is a good old saying that you're ahead."

"Certainly I have had a fantastic year. I have been very fortunate in my Olympic career and this is the start of a really exciting new chapter."



MEMORABLE: Ben Ainslie celebrates his fourth successive Olympic gold. Top - Oracle prepares for their America's Cup defence in San Francisco.

BEN AINSLIE FACTFILE

1977: Born on February 5 in Macclesfield, Lancashire. His father, Roddy, sailed in the first Whitbread Round the World Race.

1996: Having won the European Championships and finished third in the Laser World Championships, he goes on to win silver at the Olympic Games in Atlanta aged 19.

1997: Finishes third in the Laser World Championships and takes bronze at the European Championships.

1998: Wins both the Laser European and World Championships.

1999: Ainslie is named British Yachtsmen of the Year and World Sailor of the Year, having won the Europeans and World Championships yet again.

2000: Sees off competition from Brazil's Robert Scheidt to win Laser gold at the Sydney Olympics. Also wins Laser Europeans and finishes third in the Laser World Championships. Named British Yachtsmen of the Year and made MBE in New Year Honours list.

2002: After spending 14 months with the 'One World Challenge' America's Cup campaign, Ainslie moves to the Finn class. He wins the first of what prove to be many World Championships in the division and takes the Finn Europeans. Becomes British Yachtsmen of the Year and World Sailor of the Year.

2003: Takes another Finn Gold Cup and another Finn European crown.

2004: Ainslie's dominance of the Finn class continues as he wins a second Olympic gold medal in Athens, Greece. Also takes the World and European crowns as he is named British Yachtsmen of the Year for a fourth time. Inducted into the Finn Hall of Fame.

2005: Ainslie racks up a fourth successive Finn Gold Cup and receives OBE. He also wins the Finn Europeans.

2008: After re-entering the America's Cup arena with Emirates Team New Zealand, he returns to the Olympic circuit to win an unprecedented fifth world title, European title and Olympic gold in Qingdao, China. He is named British Yachtsmen of the Year for a fifth time, World Sailor of the Year yet again and made CBE.

2011: Fights off tough competition to be selected for the British sailing squad in the Finn class. Year ends in controversy at the ISAF World Championships in Perth, Australia, where he is involved in an altercation with a media boat.

2012: In January launches Ben Ainslie Racing, a new team that will initially compete in the next edition of the America's Cup World Series along with plans to join ORACLE Racing for the defence of the 34th America's Cup. Having recovered from back surgery, he wins the Finn Gold Cup for a record sixth time in Falmouth, Cornwall.

August 5 - Wins fourth Olympic gold medal, triumphing in the Finn class on home waters off Weymouth at the London 2012 Games. With four golds and a silver, Ainslie becomes the most successful sailor in Olympic history.

November 27 - Announces that he will not compete at Rio 2016 bringing down the curtain on a glittering Olympic career and says he will now focus on his America's Cup campaign.

Cherries/Pompey Spotlight



QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"There was also the comment at the end of last season when my successor said after coming 17th, the same position I left them in, 'we won't be in this position again'. Unfortunately he was proved right; QPR have not been that high since," **Neil Warnock on his former club QPR and his successor Mark Hughes, who was sacked last week.**

"There has to be that 90-minute consistency to pick up some results because to be honest you don't have four points from 13 games...there has to be something fundamentally wrong. Unfortunately for Mark it cost him his job" - **Harry Redknapp after being appointed Hughes' successor.**

"You're not wanted here" - **the Chelsea fans welcome new boss Rafa Benitez to Stamford Bridge.**

"I don't care. I'm just focused on the game. I want to change the perception" - **Benitez responds.**

"When I went to QPR it was a choice dictated by money" - **Joey Barton on his transfer from Newcastle to QPR.**



RICKY HATTON

"A fighter knows when it's not there any more, and it's not there" - **Ricky Hatton announces his retirement for the second time after losing his comeback fight to Vyacheslav Senchenko in Manchester.**

"If I don't draw a line in the sand now and call time on my boxing career, I'm never going to do it. I was heartbroken and I'll probably cry tonight - but I'm happy that I went in there and found it out" - **Hatton.**

"Everything that could go wrong did go wrong, but we always kept believing and we didn't get angry or frustrated with the situation. When you're facing the wrong way at the start, with the damage on the car, losing the radio, the conditions, stopping a lap too early, not having the tyres ready, where do you start? When I was told over the radio, it was unbelievable. Unfortunately, the guys couldn't hear my answer because the radio was broken!" - **Sebastian Vettel after clinching his third straight Formula One world title with a sixth-place finish in the Brazilian Grand Prix.**

"A lot of people tried to play dirty tricks. But we did not get distracted by that and kept going our way. All the guys gave a big push right to the end" - **Vettel points to underhand tactics by some of his rivals after sealing his third world title at Interlagos.**

EDDIE CAN GET

Howe's the man to get the best out of the mercurial talent which is returning Cherries striker Pitman ...

JOE Roach is tipping Eddie Howe to maximise the mercurial talents of Brett Pitman and insists the striker can provide the finishing touch for Cherries.

Former Cherries head of youth Roach mentored Pitman as he rolled off the Dean Court production line to become a goalscoring star in the first team.

Pitman returned to Dorset recently when he signed on loan from Bristol City, with a view to a permanent move in the January transfer window.

The Jersey-born frontman agreed terms on a three-and-a-half year deal and will cost Cherries a cut-price fee believed to be in the region of £60,000.

Pitman, who hit 28 goals for Howe during Cherries' 2010 promotion campaign, was given limited game-time by City after his £550,000 switch.

But Roach insists Pitman - who scored after coming off the bench at Bury last weekend - will flourish and again enjoy a fruitful partnership with old boss Howe.

He also believes the creativity Cherries have displayed since Howe's appointment will play into the hands of "goalscorer" Pitman.

Roach, pictured below, said: "Eddie will, and has, got the best out of him."

"If you look at Brett's record from that part of his career with Bournemouth before he left, you don't need to be a statistician to see the impact that he made."

"I have seen probably all the home games since Eddie has been back and the team are creating lots of chances and Brett will thrive on those types of ball entries into the box."

"Eddie knows how to get the best out of Brett from a playing point of view and, if he is doing the right things, will want him on the pitch. Brett will react to that in a positive statement."

"He will have to work hard with Eddie and Eddie will get the best out of him."

Appointed to the youth set-up by Sean O'Driscoll in 2001, Roach departed Dean Court in controversial circumstances in June 2011. In his 10 years at the club, he was responsible for unearthing in excess of £1.5million worth of talent - including Pitman, Sam Vokes, Josh McQuoid and

Danny Ings.

Roach says Pitman was always a natural.

He added: "We didn't have a player like him in the youth team until that point. "We had Danny Ings and Sam Vokes but he was just a natural goalscorer."

"Inside the box, outside the box, overhead kicks - any type of goal you wanted, he was capable of scoring, and you can't take that away."

"His record in the youth team and first team is exemplary."

Roach, who still lives locally, is currently working on behalf of the Premier League, auditing and inspecting academies.

BACK WITH A BANG:

Brett Pitman celebrates a goal during his first spell with Cherries.



KEEP UP DATE WITH THE BIG LOCAL SPORTS STORIES ...

Cherries/Pompey Spotlight

BRETT FIRING

Cherries squad is overloaded with strikers

BRETT Pitman's return to Cherries has left manager Eddie Howe with a massive headache regarding his strikers.

The Dorset club, remarkably, have EIGHT men in the first team frame who have played league football.

Between them, the eight have netted

They are so well off for forwards that Wes Thomas left last month to join higher division Blackpool on loan because he was frustrated at the lack of chances he was getting at the Goldsands Stadium.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at Howe's array of strikers, in alphabetical order.

LEE BARNARD

The 28-year-old is on loan from Saints until the end of December. He has scored four goals in 15 League 1 starts for the Cherries this season.

Made his name with Southend scoring 35 goals in 62 starts plus 15 off the bench.

That won him a £175,000 move to St Mary's in January 2010, since when he has netted 23 goals for Saints in 38 starts plus 24 off the bench.

He has not scored for Saints since the 2-0 win at Leyton Orient in April 2011.

Injury and the form of others

restricted him to just nine league and cup outings last term.

FRANK DEMOUGE

The 30-year-old summer signing from FC Utrecht arrived in a fanfare of publicity, but has only made two league appearances to date – the last back in early October.

He missed the start of the season due to a knee injury.

Handed his debut in a 2-1 defeat to Walsall in September, Demouge then sustained a nasty facial injury during the early stages of Cherries' 3-1 reserve at Crawley, Paul Groves's final game as manager.

He is now back in action and scored in Tuesday's 4-1 friendly win against a youthful Bristol Rovers side.

STEVE FLETCHER

The 40-year-old club legend has made seven League 1 appearances as a sub this term, taking his club league total to an incredible 627 – including 119 as a sub. He has scored 103 league goals in that time.

LEWIS GRABBAN

The 24-year-old signed for £300,000 from Rotherham last May after scoring 21 league and cup goals in his first season for the Millers.

Grabban had joined Rotherham 12 months earlier on a free after being released by Millwall.

Is currently Cherries' top scoring League 1 striker with seven goals from 15 starts and two sub appearances, including a second half hat-trick in the recent 4-1 home win over Oldham.

JOSH MCQUOID

Scored 12 goals in 17 league and cup appearances for Cherries after Brett Pitman was sold in August 2010, including hat-tricks in successive matches.

Left to join Millwall in December 2010, initially on loan, but returned to Cherries last summer after scoring only once in 16

league appearances for the Lions – half of which were from the bench.

Also spent a loan spell under Eddie Howe at Burnley last season, scoring once in 17 outings.

Has netted twice in 14 League 1 appearances for Cherries this term.

BRETT PITMAN

The 24-year-old has belted 59 league goals for Cherries in just 103 starts plus 70 sub appearances.

He came to the attention of other clubs after belting 26 goals for the club during the 2009/10 League 2 promotion winning season.

He netted a hat-trick in a 5-1 drubbing of Peterborough in the second game of the following League 1 season and was instantly snapped up by Bristol City.

The Jersey-born forward went on to score 13 goals for the Robins in 40 appearances that season.

CHARLIE SHERINGHAM

The 24-year-old son of ex-England star Teddy has not played so far this season due to a foot injury he suffered against Brentford last Boxing Day. Made only six league appearances last season after an early season arrival from non league Dartford.

MATT TUBBS

The 22-year-old has spent the last few years banging in goals galore for Salisbury and Crawley, so must be frustrated at his lack of chances since rejoining Cherries last January.

Tubbs netted over 20 goals for Salisbury in 2009/10 prior to blasting 40 in 47 league and cup appearances for Conference champions Crawley Town the following season.

Tubbs had netted 18 league and cup goals by last January for the Sussex club in their debut League 2 campaign, before being signed by Cherries in a deal some claim was worth around £800,000.

Tubbs has made just eight league starts since, plus 13 off the bench, and has scored five goals.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"We came here hoping for a little miracle and we had this little present of fighting for the title through to this race. It didn't quite happen, but thanks to my team for a perfect season" - **Ferrari's Fernando Alonso** gracious after falling just short in his quest to become a three-time F1 world champion.

"Now the season is done and dusted, I feel a bit numb. It's been a day of mixed emotions, and I'm sad I didn't finish the race. But I'm excited about the future. I'll miss my friends and McLaren, but I'm optimistic about what lies ahead for me" - **Lewis Hamilton** bids an emotional farewell to McLaren after his six-year journey with the team ends with him crashing out of the Brazilian Grand Prix when in the lead.

"It was actually the only clean shirt I had. That's the honest truth" - **world number one Rory McIlroy** explains his reason for again wearing a red shirt on the final day of a tournament - something Tiger Woods has been known for doing as it is a 'power' colour - after winning the DP World Tour Championship in Dubai.



RORY McILROY

"We started to draft a speech on a piece of paper and he asked what the boat was that catches fish. Then he asked what the birds were that fly over the sea" - **former Manchester United director Maurice Watkins** reveals his key role in Eric Cantona's famous 'seagulls and trawlers' line, 20 years on from United signing the Frenchman.

"No more Olympic villages. No more opening or closing ceremonies. After almost 20 years entirely dedicated to the pursuit of gold, taking in five Olympic campaigns, I have decided I will not attempt a sixth at Rio de Janeiro in 2016" - **British sailing star Ben Ainslie** announces an end to his Olympic career.

"He is an extremely good player. The amount of riot he creates up front on his own is absolutely incredible" - **Tottenham manager Andre Villas-Boas** makes a Kaiser Chiefs-esque prediction before facing Liverpool striker Luis Suarez.

"Unfortunately, Koren will be on 'Christmas Bloopers' that comes around every year. He can join me. I was on there for about 10 years!" - **Hull manager Steve Bruce** manages to make light of Robert Koren's glaring miss in the goalless draw with Crystal Palace.

LOG ONTO dailyecho.co.uk AND JOIN THE BIG DEBATES ...

Non-league Football

■ DREW SMITH LGE

On song Gulf right as rain

TORRENTIAL rain decimated last weekend's Drew Smith League programme – just two matches going ahead.

Roy Wightman Junior League Cup holders AFC Gulf Western took advantage of Priory Rovers' efforts to get their second-round tie on at the artificial pitch at Test Park, winning 8-0 with Scott Brown hitting a hat-trick.

Mike Saye (2) and Emmett Madden, Kieran Wyse and Justin Penfold were also on target.

Gulf now travel to Botley Village for a third-round tie.

The other match to defy the awful conditions was a Veterans Over 40 League match between Winchester OBs and Wildern OBs.

Hosts Winchester edged the contest 3-2 courtesy of goals from John Sparks, Martin Healey and Ian Rispin. Scott Blake and Nathan Cross were Wildern's consolation scorers.

Treble chance

THE draws have been made for the Southampton Senior Cup quarter-finals and the semi-finals of the junior and veterans competitions.

Southampton University, Bush Hill and Comrades have all avoided each other in the Senior Cup draw so there could be three Drew Smith teams in the semis.

Bush Hill have still to navigate their round of 16 tie at Sholing Reserves. Should they make it through, Sydenhams League high-fliers Team Solent await in the quarters.

Southampton University will host another Sydenhams League side, Brockenhurst, in another tough ask.

In the Junior A Cup semi-finals, Veracity Vipers take on AFC Grains while Solent Saints will meet Riverside.

The B Cup draw sees Chandler's Ford clash with Priory Rovers and New Forest Reserves, who stunned their own first team in the quarters, facing SG Sports.

In the Veterans Cup, B Division title favourites Hythe Aztecs face A Division Nursling, while the second semi-final will be between C Division Woolston and the winner of the BTC v Sporting BTC contest.

● THE Drew Smith League hopes to start a ladies' division early in the new year. Interested teams should contact Sophie Davis of Hampshire FA at Sophie.Davis@hampshirefa.com or Rod Sutherland at sotonfl@gmail.com.

ELLIOT TAMES LIONS

ELLIOT Ward rattled in four when New Star United gave Creekmoor Lions a 7-2 drubbing to open up a four-point lead at the top of Division One.

Joe Moody, Dan Cook (pen) and Terry Colbourne were the other New Star marksmen, with Anthony Hall and Tom Stockley replying for the Lions.

Unbeaten Redhill moved back on top of Division Two on goal difference after James Vallory and Harry Seal ensured a 2-0 success against AFC Burton, who remained anchored to the bottom of the table with no points.

Tailenders Poole Wanderers overcame the wet conditions to chalk up their first win of the season in Division Three, Liam Terry, Ellis Greenslade and an own goal giving them the edge 3-2 against Bournemouth Sports Mercury. Dean Norman and Dave Cavill were the Mercury scorers.

Third-placed Royal Mail Bournemouth netted through Charlie Green but they had to settle for a point in Division Four when Shivan Roushbaiani earned Tavla Spor a battling 1-1 draw.

Victoria Park Royals netted through John Bailey, Mark Rixon and Matt Jerrard in Division Five but Muscliffe just got the better of them 4-3 thanks to Jordan Hayter, Mo Mastani and a couple of goals from Tom Rickman.

Bournemouth Electric reserves lead Division Six on goal difference after Dan Baguley (2), Ryan Thorpe (2) and Charlie Miles gave them the upper hand 5-3 against Vienna Windows reserves, who



KITTED OUT: Pace Pumas under-eights pictured in their new kit.

Order no: 15431952

■ BFA HAYWARD SUNDAY LEAGUE

replied through Sean Smart, Tomasz Wierzecholowski and Dave Ventress.

In the lower half of the table, Kris Bourne's strike for Shamrock was not enough to save them from a 3-1 defeat against Pilot whose goals came via Paul Titman, Sam Johnston and Lewis Punchard.

Seabourns moved off the bottom of Division Seven after Jamie Smith, Darren

Spence, Paul Govier and Karl Painter clinched a 4-2 victory over fellow strugglers Intellihouse.

Lee Phibbs was the star of the show, scoring all six goals in Talbot Pub reserves' 6-2 triumph over ARC Cleaning in Division Eight.

Gareth Wallis and Ben Cooper replied for ARC, who have mustered only one point from their past three outings.

Kings Park Dynamos moved up to second place in the table after sweeping aside Sports Cuts 5-0 with goals from Ryan Faulkner (2), Josh Reavenall-Nuete, Ali Young and Darren Tucker.

Frankie Gamble (2) and Simon Whitbread netted for ECP but West Howe climbed to third after getting the better of them 5-3 thanks to Aiden Goodenough (2), Nathan Wyeth, Benji King and Zak Bond.

Adam Louka notched a hat-trick when Throop United gave Horse and Jockey a 9-1 larruping, with the other goals coming via Mitch Barnes (2), Ashley Wood (2), James Morris and an own goal.

And JP Morgan were 7-3 winners against Rushmere thanks to Dean Collins (2), Lloyd Wallen, John Irons, Paul Gibbs, Andrew Trapp and Craig Whittaker. Dominic Young (2) and Bradley Blomfield were the Rushmere scorers.

Queens break windows

QUEENS Park Rovers moved into the semi-finals of the Mark Hart Sunday Senior Cup after Adam Moore and Jolyan May ensured a 2-0 third-round success against Vienna Windows.

Jamie Iles and Chris Simmons netted for Three Cross but Corfe Mullen United emerged 5-2 winners in the fourth round of the MA Hart Robbins Cup thanks to Mitch Turner's hat-trick and further goals from Chris Thomas and Lee Orchard.

A solitary Ashley Booker

strike was all that separated the sides when Barton Wanderers shaded it 1-0 against Ferndown Locomotive in the third round of the MA Hart In-Excess Cup.

Jake Lewis led the way with a four-goal blast when Talbot Pub trounced Grove Tavern 11-1 in the third round of the MA Hart Lawrence A Brivati Cup. Ryan Shaylor, Danny King and Lee Divine added two each, with the other coming from Gary Abbott.

Fordingbridge Turks, mean-

while, netted through John Cunningham, Sam Kearley and an own goal, but Townsend Spartans brushed them aside 5-3 after extra-time thanks to Savas Tosun (2), Steve Hooper, Nick Greenfield and Lewis Brown.

In the other third round tie, Matt Wells (2), Ali Paton and Pablo Sousa gave Division Four tailenders Strouden Sports the verdict 4-3 against A & T Athletic, who replied through Daniel Wills (2) and Dale Walters.

■ GIRLS AND LADIES' FOOTBALL

● IN THE Winchester & District Girls League, Bishop's Waltham under-12s defeated Winklebury 5-2. In the under-13 league, Bishops Waltham Dynamos won 1-0 at Warsash Wasps Black. Bishop's Waltham's Abigail Woollett was player of the match.

● Cup holders Southampton Saints Ladies have been drawn at home to either BTC Southampton or Hamble Club in the semi-finals of the Southampton FA Women's Cup.

The other semi will be between the winners of Southampton Women Reserves v Southampton Women and QK Ladies v Team Solent Ladies ties.

● Southampton Saints Ladies' FA Cup tie against Larkhill will be played at the Test Park Stadium, Lower Brownhill Lane on December 9 (1pm). Admission is free.

EMAIL TEAM PICTURES TO echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Youth Football

College side march on in national cup

ST GEORGE Catholic College are through to the fifth round of the English Schools' Under-13 Cup.

They have an away tie with King Alfred's Academy, from Wantage, Oxfordshire - after a second half goal by Warren Simeu beat plucky Bournemouth Grammar 1-0 at Test Park.

The goal, which settled a tightly contested affair full of neat football, came when Simeu pounced on a weak back pass and nicked the ball past the Bournemouth goalkeeper.

Delighted St George coach Ian Richardson said: "I thought they

were the stronger side in the first half and kept possession well. They didn't really have much of a threat up front, but their defence and midfield were very strong when given time on the ball.

"Abdul Jallow controlled our back four and nothing got past him all game.

"We talked about the problem at half time and agreed to press them higher up the pitch, defending from the front with both forwards and wingers pressing high and forcing them into mistakes.

"This seemed to work really well and triggered

our full backs and centre midfielders higher up the pitch, allowing them very little space and time to play.

"This was highlighted in our goal, where constant pressure led to a weak back-pass, which Warren latched onto and finished.

"We maintained our tempo and restricted them to a couple of half chances from outside the box that never really tested Ryan Edmonds in goal.

"All in all, a very pleasing display, that showed that when we raise our game and play at a high tempo we are a very difficult to beat."



ST GEORGE CATHOLIC COLLEGE: Left-right, back: Marcel Szymaniak, Abdul Jallow, James Bennett, Warren Simeu, Kieron Kenna, Jonathon Keogh, Kieron Walford. Front: Glen Freeman, Matthew Pannell, Ryan Edmonds, Dan Platt, Harrison Strange, James McCan and Jake Marchmont

FIVE-GOAL COMEBACK

Last eight are set to battle

PETER SYMONDS came from behind to beat Bournemouth 5-1 and move into second place behind Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges League champions Itchen.

Ollie Yeadon put Bournemouth ahead after a pass by Dan Park had split the PSC defence, but Dorset joy was short lived, writes **MIKE VIMPANY**.

PSC swung a free kick deep into the Bournemouth box where a home defender charitably headed an intended clearance to the unmarked Bouwe Bosma.

It was all Peter Symonds in the second half, with Jack Forder leading the Bournemouth defence a merry dance and deservedly giving his side a 2-1 lead, with Toby Chester the provider.

Scott Hills, who ended the match in goal due to an injury, set up a third for Martin Buckthorpe, who went on to make it 4-1.

Forder left the best goal until last - a stunning 30-yard strike and the talk of the Peter Symonds' coach on the way home.

Sadly, Forder wasn't well enough to play in



yesterday's ESFA Cup tie with Stanmore - a leg weary Peter Symonds losing 2-1 to the Middlesex college.

PSC lie three points behind Itchen, who extended their unbeaten start with a 2-1 win at Brockenhurst.

Itchen missed a hatful of chances before Lerone

Plummer latched on to a weak back pass and slipped the advancing Brock keeper.

They were made to pay for their profligate approach when Brockenhurst equalised but, 15 minutes from the end, Ben Wilson picked out Plummer, who seldom

wastes an opportunity

when one presents itself.

Apart from Peter Symonds beating Bournemouth 2-0 (Ben Allen/Matt Carr), the remainder of the HC programme was again washed out.

Pictured: Peter Symonds College, left to right: back: Jack Brady, Toby Chester,

Bouwe Bosma, James Crowley, Nick Courtney, Sam Jenkins, Fin Taylor, Brady Hampton, Tinashe Chiguvare. Front: Jonny Male, Jack Forder, Scott Hills, Harrison Moore, Brad Appleby, Martin Buckthorpe.

HOW THEY STAND										
	P	W	L	D	F	A	PT			
Itchen	6	6	0	0	33	2	18			
Peter Symonds	7	5	2	0	30	18	15			
Totton	5	5	0	0	17	6	15			
Bournemouth	7	4	3	0	13	18	12			
Barton Peveril	6	3	2	1	13	8	10			
Basingstoke	4	3	0	1	26	17	10			
Poole	6	3	2	1	13	8	10			
Brockenhurst	7	3	4	0	15	13	9			
Queen Mary's	5	3	2	0	13	15	9			
Farnborough	5	2	3	0	13	10	6			
Richard Taunton	5	2	3	0	13	10	6			
Sparsholt	5	2	3	0	17	19	6			
Havant	5	1	2	2	8	12	6			
South Downs	3	1	2	0	8	11	5			
Southampton City5	0	4	1	5	7	3				
Alton	6	0	6	0	8	21	1			
Portsmouth	5	0	5	0	9	25	0			

IT'S Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges Cup quarter-final day on Wednesday (2pm), with Itchen continuing their defence of the Peter Munro Trophy at Brockenhurst.

Arguably the pick of the ties is Barton Peveril's clash with Sparsholt at Chestnut Avenue.

Quarter-final ties on December 5:

Peter Munro Trophy: Barton Peveril v Sparsholt, Farnborough v Portsmouth, Brockenhurst v Itchen, Totton v Havant

Second XI Cup: Basingstoke v Peter Symonds, Fareham v Queen Mary's, Totton v Itchen, South Downs v Portsmouth

Third XI Cup: Southampton City v Bay House, Barton Peveril v St Vincent, King Edward's v Brockenhurst, Itchen v Fareham.

Home tie

SOUTHAMPTON Boys' host Aldershot & Farnham in the fourth round of the ESFA Under-15 Trophy at Southampton Solent University's Test Park stadium next Saturday (December 8), 10.30am.

A place in the last 16 of the competition is the prize for victory.

Football results round-up in the Daily Echo on Monday

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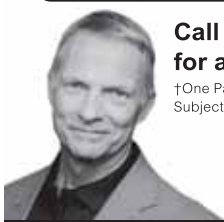
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Scare are they now



SOUTHAMPTON SCHOOLS REP SIDE (1957): Back row (from left): WR Prevett (team manager), David Leather, Michael Kelly, Brian Abraham, Robert Charles, David Williams, Melvin Reardon, John Perry and EW Jewell (hon secretary, Southampton Schools FA). Front: Roger Carrington, Geoffrey Walsh, Geoffrey Hallett, Ian Henderson and Stanley Hall. Order no: 15515290



WHITENAP (1978): Back row (from left): Vic Isaacs (secretary), Gady Snow, Melvyn Snow, Clive Callaway, Bob Clark, Bob Beavis, Andy Clark, Dave Morris, Dave Thebe (manager). Front: Dave May, Dave Moffatt, Richard Isaacs (mascot), Nigel Cox, Kevin Legg, Barry Head. Order no: 15515293

MILLBROOK LIONS (1979):

Back row (from left): Steve Baigent, Lee Rankin, Dave Jenmen, Marcus Chant, Neil Scullard, Mark Arfman, Steve Biggs and Brian Sibley (manager). Front: Ian Sims, Keith Collier, Dean Street, Mike Cleary, Peter Cox, Dave Wilson and Eamon Ward.



Order no: 15515302



BISHOP'S WALTHAM DYNAMOS UNDER-14 (1977): Back row (from left): Mick Price, Andrew Chamberlain, Derek Dempsey, Stephen Potheacary, Bill Dempsey (manager), Mark Scovell, Paul Spicer, Ian Williams and Ian Shaw. Front: Christopher Forde, John Gamblin, Jimmy Moore and Andrew Smith. Order no: 15515312



TEAM UNKNOWN (1990): Back row (from left): D Sales (coach), I Harbut, D Woods, W Snellgrove, P Williams, R Lawrence, R Wilcox, M Curtiss, D Shearedon, M Betteridge (fixtures secretary) and D England (trainer). Front: P Hunt (manager), P Sales, S Jones, R Harbut, K Martin, S Butterfield, S Hunt, C Ruslin and H Murphy (assistant manager). Order no: 15515317



CADNAM UNITED (year unknown): Tony Green, left, manager of Cadnam United, with Mike Toman of club sponsors Test Valley Carpets. Order no: 15515319

BASSETT COMETS A (1982):

Back row (from left): Scott Oliver, Steven Bennett and Gary Yendall. Front: Paul Jones, Gary Hallam and Gary Palmer.



Order no: 15515325



HAMPSHIRE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS (1968): Back row (from left): Mr P Munro, P Stamp, C Dee, I Mitchell, P Methofar, M Heywood, B Payne, T Glover, D Way and Mr PJ Barfoot. Front: PD Rowley, J Smith, M Ball, J Burnham, MW Shillabeer, BT Baker, J Oddie, J Agnew and P Bennett. Order no: 15515345

Scare are they now

**TEAM UNKNOWN**

Order no: 15515327



HAMPSHIRE SCHOOLS (1962): Back row (from left): Whitcombe, Reid, Smith, Sellwood, Warner and Nicholson. Front: Williams, Rodgers, Boniface, Spence and Fiore.

Order no: 15515330

**QUEENS KEEP (year unknown)**

Order no: 15515333

SARISBURY JUNIOR SCHOOL (1978):

Hampshire Junior Cup winners pictures with the trophies presented to them by the Mayor and Mayoress of Fareham, Councillor and Mrs John Toon. The boys are: back row (from left): Simon Harewood, Danny Cole, Colin Haynes, Alex Cuming, Nigel Wakefield and Gary Wilkins. Front: Michael Jarvis, Phillip Bayle, Gavin Wakefield, Justin Pole and Darren Davis.

Order no: 15515348



BASSETT COMETS A (1982): Back row (from left): Tony Yendall, Gary Palmer, Steven Bennett and Scott Oliver. Front: Paul Jones, Martin Weller, Gary Yendall and Gary Hallam.

Order no: 15515351



AFC WHITENAP (1977): Back row (from left): D Thebe, G Quirke, M Snow, R Clark, J Ray, D Morris, S Wilkinson, N Cocks and V Isaacs (linesman). Front: T Morris, D May, D Keevil, A Clark, D Moffatt, B Moody and P Young.

Order no: 15515358



WELLWORTHY (1974): Back row (from left): W Latimore (co-manager), K King, S Lawford, P Stannard, B Ambrose (player-manager), A Veal, G Osey and J Osey. Front: J Minns, A Buswell, R Lavis, B Tucker, J Phillips and P Reeves.

Order no: 15515362



WINSOR UNITED UNDER-16s (1978): Back row (from left): A Shannon (manager), R Edmonds, P Lawrence, M Falla, W Edmonds (trainer), G Chant, R Williams, M Weston and D Pell (assistant manager). Front: W Murray, G Whitehorne, A Heath, K Jerim, P White, A Pell and C Piper.

Order no: 15515366

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

Five more of the best overseas

ENGLAND'S superb 10-wicket victory over India in the second Test in Mumbai this week was one of their greatest overseas performances.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at some other memorable tour victories of recent times.

2000: Karachi - England beat Pakistan by six wickets

Graham Thorpe defied the onset of darkness, and Pakistan's time-wasting tactics, to lead England to a famous win in a dramatic series conclusion. His unbeaten 64 secured a first series win in Pakistan since 1961-62.

2004: Kingston - England beat West Indies by 10 wickets

Steve Harmison produced one of the great spells of fast bowling, claiming an incredible 7-12, as West Indies were skittled out for 47 in the second innings of a previously even contest.

2005: Johannesburg - England beat South Africa by 77 runs

A match seemingly destined for a draw suddenly swung England's way on the final day after an inspired dis-



play by Matthew Hoggard, above. It seemed unlikely either side could prevail as South Africa chased a target of 325 in a notional 68 overs, but Hoggard had other ideas and swung the ball in both directions on his way to seven for 61.

2009: Durban - England beat South Africa by an innings & 98 runs

Centuries by Alastair Cook and Ian Bell gave England a commanding first-innings lead and South Africa crumbled in the second innings as Graeme Swann took five for 54 and Stuart Broad four for 43.

2010: Melbourne, England beat Australia by an innings & 157 runs

England destroyed their old adversaries to ensure they would retain the Ashes. James Anderson and Chris Tremlett took four wickets apiece as Australia were dismissed for 98 on day one. Jonathan Trott then hit 168 and four others made half-centuries as England set up victory by claiming a first-innings lead of 415.



GEORGE BAILEY

Bailey still waiting to win

NEW Hampshire signing George Bailey is still waiting to appear on the winning side for Tasmania in the 2012/13 Australian domestic season as he bids for his sixth major piece of silverware with the team.

Bailey, his state side's captain, has struggled for runs in the Sheffield Shield four day competition, scoring 19 against Victoria in a drawn match and 22 and 20 against South Australia and 11 and 21 against Queensland.

Tasmania lost both those latter games, including an innings thrashing by Queensland after being skittled for 95 and 142.

Simon Carter

simon.carter@dailyecho.co.uk

SPORTS EDITOR



Bailey's form has been much better in the 50-over Ryobi Cup competition, but Tasmania have still lost their first four games.

He started his limited overs season with 13 against South Australia before hitting 74 off 67 balls in a high-scoring loss to Glenn Maxwell's Victoria.

Asked to chase Victoria's imposing 348-6 total, Bailey joint top scored with Aussie Test batsman Ed Cowan as his

side replied with 323 all out.

After being dismissed for a second ball duck in the loss to South Australia – ex-Hampshire overseas player Dan Christian also out for a second ball duck during the SA innings and ex-Ageas Bowl batsman Phil Hughes hitting 114 – Bailey struck 102 off 124 balls against Queensland in Hobart.

That helped his side post 275 all out, a target the visitors passed for the loss of five wickets off the penultimate ball thanks to an unbeaten 71 off 54 balls from Nathan Reardon.

Usman Khawaga had earlier struck 78.

I've learnt so much from Shane Warne



NEW Hampshire batsman George Bailey is hoping to carry on picking Shane Warne's mind to help him improve as a T20 cricketer.

Bailey admits he learnt a lot from playing alongside the legendary former Hampshire captain for the Melbourne Stars in last winter's KFC Big Bash, writes **AHMED KHOKHAR**.

The pair were team-mates in all eight of Stars' games. Bailey – nicknamed 'Jeronimo' – scored 114 runs at 19.00 from seven innings, starting the tournament batting at No 3 but ending it at No 7.

Warne took seven wickets at 26.00 as the Stars were knocked out in the semi-finals by a Perth Scorchers side containing Simon Katich, Marcus North and Paul Collingwood.

Speaking of Warne, who skippered Hampshire between 2004-2007 inclusive, Bailey said: "I don't think it is any secret he is a great thinker about the game and a great competitor."

"To see that first hand and see the way he prepares himself... not only his game, but how the game was going to unfold generally was a real eye opener."

"That knowledge is something that I can hopefully share with the Hampshire guys and also learn from them how they go about their T20 competition in England."

"In terms of T20, he is prob-

ably one of the more progressive minds in the world."

"It was great experience and he is somebody I would love to keep in touch with in terms of T20."

"His ideas and thoughts and the way he thinks about it is something that is really important in Australian cricket."

"It will stand me in good stead for my first taste of county cricket."

"I am used to playing in the UK to some extent, having played in Scotland, but I've never played for a county so I am really looking forward to the challenge of helping Hampshire win the T20 next year."

"I've learned little bits from Shane, just in terms of the way I guess you see the game going and where you can influence the game going in the overs to come."

"Warnie is someone who I've always thought is a bit ahead of the game, he always gives the impression – certainly when he is bowling – that what is about to happen he has already thought of and dealt with."

"That is something you try and take into the game, particularly the format of T20 being so important that you have to think on your feet and be prepared for any type of situation."

"That was something I really enjoyed seeing first hand."

Bailey, who is his country's T20 captain, will join a Hampshire team used to winning one-day games.

BAILEY JOINS HAMPSHIRE'S AUSSIE CLUB - SEE PAGES 38/39

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

for Tasmania this season

Bailey is attempting to skipper Tasmania to their second Sheffield Shield triumph in three seasons.

He was captain when they won only their second ever Shield in 2010/11, beating New South Wales in the final in Hobart.

Bailey scored only nine and 25 in the final, which Tasmania won by seven wickets after a surprising declaration by NSW captain Simon Katich – Bailey's predecessor as Hampshire's overseas player – left them only 203 for victory and over 70 overs in which to

get them.

Bailey had also been a part of the first Tasmania team to win the Sheffield Shield in 2006/07.

On that occasion they beat New South Wales again, this time by a mammoth 421 runs.

Bailey scored 1 and 50 in that final, where Damien Wright – no stranger to English county cricket fans after spells at Somerset, Worcestershire, Sussex, Northants and Glamorgan – bagged 5-13 in NSW's second innings.

Bailey is also no stranger to winning one-day competitions with Tasmania. Three times he has won the country's

50-over tournament when it was known as the Ford Ranger Cup.

In 2004/05 he did not bat in the win against Queensland, as Dan Marsh (67no), ex-Hampshire man Michael Dighton (57) and Michael Bevan (47no) took Tasmania to victory.

In 2007/08 he scored just seven in a Duckworth/Lewis win against New South Wales, and in 2009/10 he managed just six in a 110-run caning of Victoria.

Tim Paine (100) and Dighton (80) helped Tasmania post 304-6, with Victoria dismissed for 194.



LEGEND: George Bailey enjoyed playing alongside Shane Warne for Melbourne Stars last winter.

Shane is one of the more progressive minds in the world in terms of t20

The Royals not only lifted the t20 Cup for the second time in three years last August, but they also add the CB40 for good measure.

"The Hampshire guys did well last year so to go to a team that is used to winning and has been challenging for trophies in recent times is a big plus for me," Bailey added.

"The culture of Hampshire is one of always trying to improve and as a team we will all be desperate to win the T20 competition again next year.

"Hopefully I can play my part in scoring runs and helping the guys on and off the field.

"It's about attention to detail and doing the little things well as a team, with bat, ball, and in the field.

"If we play well as a team then we can have success in the t20. "We need to bat well to give our bowlers the best chance and I've got to do my bit with the bat.

"Our character and decision-making will be tested and it's up to us as a group to be disciplined and execute our skills as first-class cricketers.

"My approach is to bat positively but at the same time not to play reckless cricket.

"The Hampshire bowling group will need to put enough balls in the right areas for long enough and as a team we need to take our chances.

"That's the secret of winning in t20 cricket.

"Patience and team effort are the most important things to give us our best chance of winning t20 games.

"I'm really looking forward to it."

The life and times of George Bailey ...

In 2001 he was a member of the Australian Cricket Academy squad chosen to tour New Zealand.

Among his colleagues were Cameron White, Mark Cosgrove and ex-Hampshire all-rounder Dan Christian.

Tasmania v Western Australia, Perth, Sheffield Shield, November 2005

Bailey, then just 23, hits his maiden first class hundred in thrilling style, scoring 117 as Tasmania successfully chase 348 to win on the final day for the loss of eight wickets.

2007 British summer

Bailey spent the 2007 season playing for Grange in the Scottish League Premier Division.

With 765 runs from 13 innings at 95.62, he finished as the section's leading runscorer.

Bailey contributed three hundreds and four half-centuries with a top score of 131 not out.

His three centuries all came in his first six matches – 127 not out against Poloc, 107 v Ferguslie and 131 not out against West of Scotland.

Tasmania v Queensland, Ford Ranger Cup, Hobart, February 2010

Bailey's maiden one-day century arrives when he scores an unbeaten 112 off 108 balls.

Hampshire v Scotland, Ageas Bowl, CB40, May 2010

Bailey, playing for Scotland, hits 90 batting at No 3 to put his side in sight of a famous CB40 victory. But Hampshire, who post 237 batting first, win by 31 runs.

Scotland v Hampshire, Aberdeen, CB40, Aug 2012

Bailey again top scores for Scotland against Hampshire, this time hitting 43 in a total of 164 – a score Hampshire easily pass for the loss of just two wickets.

Tasmania v Western Australia, Hobart, t20, January 2011

Bailey belts 51 off 30 balls to

win the man of the match award.

Tasmania v New South Wales, Sheffield Shield, February 2012

Bailey might skipper Australia's t20 side but he is not just a one-day specialist – he was voted man of the match in Tasmania's Shield victory over NSW earlier this year for his first innings 117.

Australia v India, Sydney, t20, February 2012

Bailey was handed the captaincy of his county when he made his t20 international debut. He scored an unbeaten 12 in Australia's 31-run victory.

Tasmania v South Australia, Ryobi Cup final, Feb 2012

Bailey struck 101 off 105 balls, batting at No 4, as his side suffered an agonising loss in the final of Australia's 50-over competition.

Both sides finished level on 285, with man of the match Bailey having put on 174 for his side's fourth wicket with Ricky Ponting.

But while SA were all out and Tasmania only lost four wickets, SA were judged victors by virtue of their better record in qualifying.

Australia v West Indies, Kingston, ODI, March 2012

Batting at No 6, Bailey wins the man of the match award for his 48 off 67 balls and three catches – not bad for his ODI debut for Australia!

England v Australia, ODI, Old Trafford, July 2012

Batting at No 7, Bailey top scores with 46 not out – but England still win by seven wickets.

Australia v West Indies, t20 World Cup, October 2012

Bailey's hopes of guiding Australia to the World Cup final were dashed by a Windies batting blitz.

Having been asked to chase 206 for victory, Bailey struck 63 off just 29 balls – with four sixes and six fours – but Australia lost by 74 runs.

AGEAS BOWL BLITZ: George Bailey almost scored a ton in 2010 for Scotland.



CONTACT THE SPORTS PINK ON 02380 424515

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



'Punter' tributes

RICKY Ponting will play his last Test match in Perth this week after announcing the end of his decorated international career. Tributes from around the cricket world flooded in for the 37-year-old, who will bow out as the second highest runscore in Test history. Here, the *Sports Pink* takes a look at the tributes so far.

"I didn't have a feeling it was coming. Ricky spoke to me after [the second Test against South Africa in] Adelaide and obviously made his decision over the last few days. The boys are obviously hurting right now. He's been an amazing player for a long time" - **A teary Australia captain Michael Clarke reacts to Ponting's decision.**

"Initially it was a bit of a shock...I've played a lot against Ricky and he's the most competitive man I've ever played against. I think the way he played the game, the intensity with which he played the game, is a credit to him. He's always represented Australia with a lot of dignity and a lot of skill" - **South Africa captain Graeme Smith.**

"He's right up there (with the best ever), averaging more than 50, the second most Test runs and more



than 40 hundreds. But I don't think of him so much in a statistical way. He was just a great competitor for Australia" - **Former England captain Mike Atherton.**

"The best batsman I had the privilege to play against ... Ricky Ponting... #Punter Australia cricket will not be the same without him" - **Michael Vaughan, the England captain who beat Ponting for the first time in 2005.**

"Ricky Ponting RETIRES.... ONE OF THE GREATS! I always got excited playing AUS, so I could watch him bat up close. Well done Punter!" - **England's former Hampshire batsman Kevin Pietersen.**

"Congrats to Ricky Ponting on an amazing career, well done Punter...Enjoy your last match in Perth buddy, was a pleasure playing with you!!!" - **Legendary leg-spinner Shane Warne, the former Hampshire skipper, leads a host of tributes on Twitter.**

"Unbelievable career comes to an end in the last test at the WACA! has been a pleasure working with you! go out with a bang!!" - **Australia's South African coach Mickey Arthur.**

"Well done Punter on an incredible career. It would be great to see you finish with a ton. It was an honour to

'COMPULSIVE reading'.

That's the *Sports Pink*, of course.

It was also the words Ian Botham used when asked to give his view on the 1984 'Cricketers' Who's Who' - a weighty guide to all the professionals with the then 17 first class counties.

I know this because, while cleaning up my loft the other day, I found the book in a box of sporting nostalgia.

It's still - even 28 years on - in almost pristine condition, and I would expect to bank a tidy sum if I considered selling it.

That is because it is autographed by over 150 of the cricketers whose profiles are contained within.

Back in my younger days, I was a regular at the County Ground in Taunton, watching Botham, Viv Richards and Joel Garner in action for Somerset.

If only t20 had been around in those days ...!

As a wide-eyed kid, I waited patiently at the foot of the pavilion steps to get the great and the good - and Russell Cobb of Leicestershire - to sign my 'Who's Who'.

I can't recall if anyone ever told me to get lost. I wouldn't have thought so. This, after all, is cricket, the noble game played by gentlemen.

Or something like that.

If you didn't get all the autographs you wanted before play started or during the lunch and tea intervals as the players traipsed on and off the pitch, then you could just go into the bar after the cricket had finished and ask the players while they queued for a pint.

Yes, you really could.

And I did.

You could go up to Ian Botham, at the time possibly the biggest sporting star in British sport, in the bar and ask him to sign your book.

And he did.

My friend once asked David Gower, at the time the England captain, would he mind signing a few scorecards and books.

Gower, being a nice friendly guy, said he would and sat down on a seat next to my friend.

Imagine Gower's surprise when my mate pulled out from his scruffy holdall about 15 different items - miniature bats, scorecards, books, magazines!

Gower signed them all without complaining.

I have never forgotten that, and as a result whenever I see David Gower on television I am always transported back to the County Ground in 1985 when he took the time to make a snotty-nosed school kid's day.

Anyway, I digress.

Simon Carter

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SPORTS EDITOR

Reading the 1984 'Who's Who' now provides a fascinating insight into the lives of pro cricketers back in the 1980s.

Here, I have picked out a few highlights of the Hampshire players' biographies.

All the cricketers were obviously given the same questionnaire and answered it as best they could. Some didn't bother writing anything when asked for their opinions on the game, others wrote War and Peace.

In alphabetical order, here we go ...

Nigel Cowley

Enjoys golf - plays off a 10 handicap - football and badminton.

Kevin Emery

Full name Kevin St John Dennis Emery, he worked in the accounts department of Sydney University in the winter of 1981/82.

Has learnt a lot from Malcolm Marshall, even though the West Indian legend "eats too much macaroni".

Under the 'other sports' section, he wrote 'enjoy fitness' adding, in brackets, 'I need to be!'

Under 'relaxations', Emery wrote 'listening to good music', though sadly no specific artists or bands were mentioned. Also said he enjoys 'watching amusing (his brackets) videos'. Again, no such examples of 'amusing' videos are given.

Emery certainly wasted no time when asked for his opinions on cricket, talking about reduced over-rates, advertising on players' kit, the need for more sports medicine/physiotherapy, the fact county players are asked to play too much cricket, and also that counties should look after players who have been released more to help them get new jobs.

"More thought should be given to human relations," he wrote.

Chris Goldie

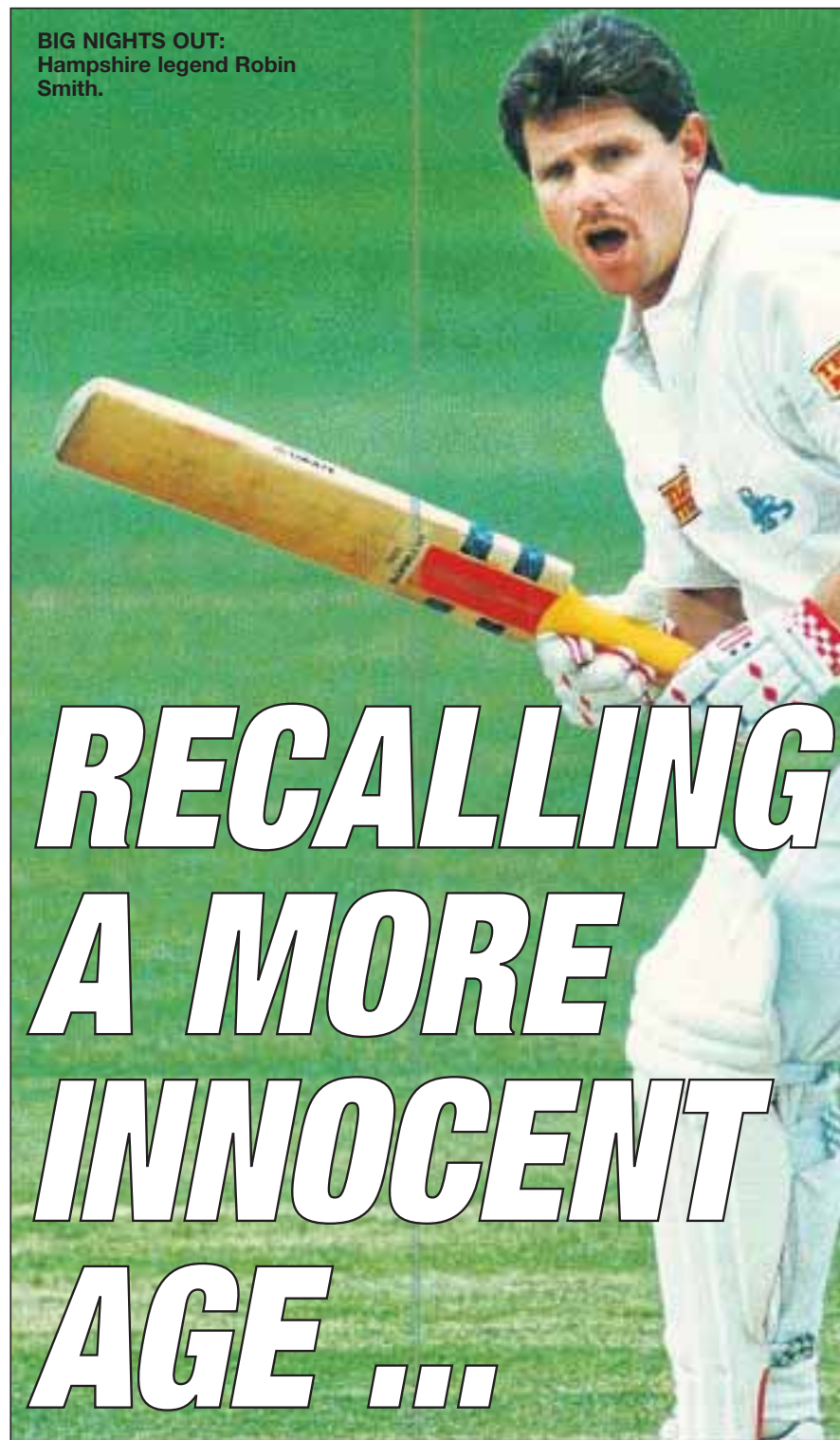
Under 'relaxations', the wicket-keeper wrote 'good company, Everton FC and fruit machines that pay out a lot of money.'

Under 'other sports' he penned 'golf and squash - both badly.'

Gordon Greenidge

Unlike Kevin Emery, the West Indian legend didn't give any opinions on the game that allowed him such a great life, though we do learn that he studied

BIG NIGHTS OUT: Hampshire legend Robin Smith.



RECALLING A MORE INNOCENT AGE ...

accountancy and book keeping and once worked for Sutton's Seeds in Reading and Dimplex in Southampton.

He also once thought of joining the church on leaving school, so religion's loss was certainly cricket's gain.

Steve Malone

Wasn't a big fan of the Championship moving to four days, which eventually

of course it did.

Asked his opinions, he wrote 'to keep three day cricket, otherwise if four day cricket were introduced it would lead to negative cricket and also financially clubs would be worse off because spectators would not be able to go.'

Malcolm Marshall

Asked his opinions on cricket, he wrote 'all coun-

ties should have a qualified physiotherapist.'

It seems incredible to think that back then - and we are only talking 1984, not 1954 - that that wasn't the case.

Marshall also praised the training methods of Warwickshire and Sussex, but didn't go into specifics.

Under 'other sports', he put 'tennis, basketball, darts, softball cricket.'

DAILY ECHO AND PINK - BEST FOR CRICKET 12 MONTHS OF THE YEAR

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



SOMETHING TO SAY: Clockwise, from above left, Chris Smith, Nick Pocock, Malcolm Marshall, Kevin Emery and Mark Nicholas.

Mark Nicholas

Unlike Malone, was in favour of four-day cricket. He wrote 'four day cricket could not exist with present declining standards of wickets. However, on good wickets it would be invaluable in helping to bring back the old arts. It would be nice to see greater emphasis placed on technique in both school-boy and county cricket.'

Interestingly – given that

Hampshire generally fielded Gordon Greenidge and Malcolm Marshall in the same team – Nicholas was in favour of only one overseas player per county.

Under 'relaxations', he wrote 'Theatre, contemporary music, writing, Spurs, golf, Richmond Rugby Club.'

Bobby Parks

Under 'relaxations', he

wrote 'backgammon and reading'.

Nick Pocock

Obviously a top chap as among his 'extras' was the fact he wrote a weekly cricket article for the *Southern Evening Echo*, as the *Southern Daily Echo* was then called!

Among his opinions on the game was 'still feel that Saturdays could be better

used to draw large crowds to watch a one-day competition on a league basis.'

This was at a time when the John Player Sunday League was still going strong.

Like several other professional cricketers in the 1984 'Who's Who', Pocock also gave his home address and phone number.

Obviously a more innocent age back then, I still find it fairly amazing to see.

I wonder if any supporters ever took it upon themselves to knock on the door of 12 Melrose Gardens, London W6 in the off season in the hope that Pocock would answer?

Or did anyone ever send him a letter asking for an autograph, or congratulating him on his superb articles for the *Evening Echo*?

One thing is for certain – I can't imagine any cricketer giving their home address or home number in the 2013 'Who's Who'.

Almost certainly their Twitter account name, or even a Facebook link, but not their phone number.

Chris Smith

Another to give their home address, in his case both in Hampshire and South Africa! And this from a man who was a current England Test cricketer!

Disagreed with Mark Nicholas in writing 'counties should be allowed to play two overseas players. It will raise the general standard of play by having other Test players involved and will therefore raise the standard of the English players.'

'Also there are too many arm-chair critics on the game – particularly in South Africa. I find that sort of person unbearable.'

Smith also had strong views on the counties not doing enough to bring in cash.

'I feel that each county should have a highly motivated sales personnel (apart from secretaries) to sell the game. So much money could be made and so many companies exploited to make money for the county games, but it is not being done. Players should be able and allowed to sell themselves – ie by wearing advertising when playing. I do agree it should only be allowed to a certain size.'

Robin Smith

Under 'cricket superstitions', he wrote 'always have a big night out before a game.'

Not sure if the man who would become a Hampshire legend was making that remark with tongue stuffed firmly in cheek, or whether he was deadly serious!

Under 'extras', Smith

wrote that he still held the South African shot putt and hurdles under-19 records.

John Southern

Like Nicholas and James, an avid Tottenham fan.

Under 'relaxations', he put 'collecting second hand books on history, drinking home-made wine and not thinking about cricket'.

His superstition was always to call tails when tossing the coin.

Keith Stevenson

Under 'significant injuries during 1983', wrote 'visited a faith healer in an attempt to clear up persistent back injury.'

Under 'relaxations', he put 'gardening'.

Paul Terry

Another to give his address – he lived in Sherfield – and listed 'music and sleeping' as his relaxations – though presumably not at the same time.

Tim Tremlett

Said it would be 'a good idea to give sides points if they lose so many hours through rain during a county championship game.'

'That would certainly have helped Hampshire last season, as they were hard hit by rain throughout the so-called summer.'

'It would help to counter any unfavourable geographical position,' he added.

He added: 'Is it not time for neutral umpires in Test matches?'

David Turner

Relaxations include gardening and chess, and also watching war films.

Asked his opinions on cricket, he replied 'I would like the authorities to try for one season 16 four-day Championship games, coupled with a Saturday 60 overs limited overs league along with the usual Sunday John Player League.' He eventually got the first part of his wish.

Elsewhere, Kevan James – now a sports broadcaster with BBC Radio Solent – was playing for Middlesex and writing about his relaxations 'Watch Spurs whenever possible, and going down the local. Enjoy driving big cars'.

Not sure how many cricketers in the 2013 edition of 'Who's Who' would list going down their local pub as a relaxation!

Pre-empting the emergence of t20, James also writes when asked his opinions on cricket 'would like to see a league formed around floodlit cricket.'

Ponting by numbers

167 - Test match caps. He will join Steve Waugh as the equal most-capped Australian in Perth.

13,366 - Test match runs to make him the second-most prolific batsman of all time behind Sachin Tendulkar.

41 - Test centuries to leave him third in the all-time list behind Sachin Tendulkar and Jacques Kallis.

257 - His highest Test score against India at Melbourne in 2003.

48 - His world record number of Test wins as captain.

5 - Test match wickets.

375 - One-day international matches to make him the most-capped Australian and fifth-most overall.

230 - His record for most ODIs as captain.

13,704 - ODI runs to leave him second on the all-time list behind Tendulkar.

30 - The second most ODI centuries, behind Tendulkar again.

3 - World Cup titles.

2 - World Cup wins as captain.

42.03 - ODI average.

98* - Highest Twenty20 score in his first ever international match in the shortest format against New Zealand.

2 - Number of Twenty20 half-centuries in 17 international games.

MOST TEST RUNS OF ALL TIME

	M	In	Rns	Av	100	50
S Tendulkar	192	317	15562	54.60	51	65
R Ponting	167	285	13366	52.21	41	62
R Dravid	164	286	13288	52.31	36	63
J Kallis	157	266	12941	57.26	44	56
B Lara	131	232	11953	52.88	34	48
A Border	156	265	11174	50.56	27	63
S Waugh	168	260	10927	51.06	32	50
S Chandrapaul	146	249	10696	51.67	27	61
D Jayawardene	134	224	10631	50.62	31	43
S Gavaskar	125	214	10122	51.12	34	45

GOT A CRICKET STORY? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



HAMPSHIRE'S 2013 FIXTURES

APRIL

10-13 Leicestershire (h) ...LVCC2
17-19 Loughbor'gh UCCE (h) ...FR
24-27 Worcestershire (h) ...LVCC2
29-May 2 Essex (a)LVCC2

MAY

3 Essex Eagles (a),CB40 (FL)
5 Scotland (h)CB40
6 Surrey (a)CB40
8-11 Gloucestershire (a) ...LVCC2
19 Durham Dynamos (h) ...CB40
22 Lancashire (h)CB40 (FL)
23-26 Lancashire (h)LVCC2
29-1 Northamptonshire (a) .LVCC2

JUNE

5-8 Kent (h)LVCC2
12-15 Gloucestershire (h) .LVCC2
18 Derbyshire (h)CB40 (FL)
22 Durham Dynamos (a) ...CB40
26 Surrey (h)T20 (FL)
28 Essex Eagles (a)T20 (FL)

JULY

5 Sussex Sharks (a)T20 (FL)
8-11 Glamorgan (a)T20
12 Sussex Sharks (h)T20 (FL)
14 Middlesex (Richmond) ...T20
15-18 Kent (a)LVCC2
19 Surrey (a) T20(FL)
21 Kent Spitfires (h)T20
26 Essex Eagles (h)T20 (FL)
29 Kent Spitfires (a)T20 (FL)
31 Middlesex Panthers (h) T20 (FL)

AUGUST

2-5 Glamorgan (h)LVCC2
6 Bangladesh A (h)FR
6-8 T20 quarter finals
11 Essex Eagles (h)CB40
13 Scotland (a)CB40
15 Surrey (h)CB40 (FL)
17 T20 Finals Day ... (Edgbaston)
20 Lancashire (a)CB40 (FL)
26 Derbyshire (a)CB40
28-31 Lancashire (a)LVCC2

SEPTEMBER

3-6 Northamptonshire (h) .LVCC2
7/9 CB40 semi-finals
11-14 Worcestershire (a) .LVCC2
17-20 Leicestershire (a) ...LVCC2
21 CB40 final Lord's
24-27 Essex (h)LVCC2

WHEN George Bailey makes his Hampshire debut next summer he will be the 15th Australian to play for the county in the last 16 years.

Australia's T20 captain joins an illustrious list including nine other Test players.

Matthew Hayden began what has become a Hampshire tradition when he arrived at Northlands Road as a 25-year-old back in 1997.

Bailey will be Hampshire's first Australian since Phil Hughes played a few games at the end of the 2010 season. Here, **SIMON WALTER** looks at all Bailey's predecessors at the county ...

MATT HAYDEN (1997)

The 1,438 Championship runs he scored at 57.5 during his only season with the county included four centuries and is an aggregate that no Hampshire batsman has matched since. Hayden was only 25 at the time and his season with Hampshire undoubtedly helped him when he returned to England with Australia in 2001. He had only played seven of his 103 Tests when he played for Hampshire but became a regular when he returned to the side after a three-year absence in March 2000. Hayden scored 980 one-day runs at 46.66 for Hampshire (only the Smith brothers and Barry Richards have scored more in one season).

SHANE WARNE (2000, 2004-07)

The most iconic Hampshire player of recent times, the first of his five seasons on the south coast was the county's last at Northlands Road. Warne led Hampshire to promotion to the County Championship's first division in his first season as captain followed by second place and the C&G Trophy in 2005, a year best remembered for his heroic performances during that summer's Ashes series.

His 276 wickets at 25.6 included a best return of 7-99 – the morning after an escapade that was plastered over the front of the *News of the World* a few days later.

He recorded his best match analysis – 11-133 – in his final season.

It was also for Hampshire that Warne scored his only first-class centuries, against Kent and Middlesex at Canterbury and Southgate in 2005.

His proactive, imaginative brand of captaincy helped lay the foundations for the club's recent limited-overs success but ironically he only played two Twenty20 matches for Hampshire before leaving to become one of the first stars of the Indian Premier League, leading Rajasthan Royals to the inaugural title.

SIMON KATICH (2003-05, 2012)

Hampshire's Player of the Year in 2003, his first full season with the county, which saw him star for a struggling side that finished second from bottom of the Championship.

Katich enjoyed briefer stints in 2004, when he helped Hampshire secure promotion to the Championship's top flight, and in 2005.

He returned after a seven-year absence last summer. His 738 Championship runs at 35 is a record that does not compare favourably with the 1,143 he made at 60.1 in his first season. But he was outstanding as Hampshire won the limited-overs double, before opting for a second stint with Lancashire rather than a fourth with Hampshire in 2013.

MICHAEL CLARKE (2004)



SIMON KATICH



SHANE WARNE



MICHAEL CLARKE



SHANE WATSON

Come in Aussie No 15!

Described by Shane Warne as Australia's best batsman since Ricky Ponting when he arrived at the Rose Bowl in 2004, Clarke is currently enjoying a Bradmanesque run of form after becoming the first player to score four Test double centuries in a calendar year last month.

During his first two months with Hampshire, 'Pup' struggled in English conditions and finished his only county season with 709 Championship runs at 35.

But he enjoyed a purple patch in mid-summer, when he became the county's first player since Gordon Greenidge to score hundreds in three successive innings – 140, 103 and 109 away to Notts and Glamorgan.

SHANE WATSON (2004-05)

Best remembered for his all-round

brilliance during Hampshire's successful C & G Trophy run in 2005, particularly the 132 he made in the quarter-final at The Oval.

His heroics that day helped Hampshire chase down a record 359 with more than two overs to spare.

He was outstanding in the field as Yorkshire were beaten by eight wickets in the Rose Bowl semi-final. And then he took a match-winning 3-34 as Hampshire beat Warwickshire by 18 runs in the final.

The unbeaten 203 he scored against Warwickshire in the last of his six County Championship appearances for Hampshire remains the highest score of his career.

He scored 676 runs at 84 during those six games, five of which were made in 2005 as he and Andy Bichel helped fire Hampshire to second in

the table as overseas replacements for Simon Katich and Shane Warne. Warne billed Watson as Australia's Andrew Flintoff and he lived up to that comparison as the man of the tournament at this year's World Twenty20.

MICHAEL DIGHTON (2004)

The least well known of Hampshire's Aussies, Dighton became the fourth Australian to play for Hampshire as a short-term signing in May 2004.

He only played two one-day games, both against Gloucestershire. After making 74 in a one-day home win he was out for 12 in a tense three-wicket defeat as Hampshire exited the C & G Trophy at Bristol a few weeks later.

ANDY BICHEL (2005)

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



ANDY BICHEL



STUART CLARK



IAN HARVEY



DAN CHRISTIAN

return for an overseas player but he also contributed 22 wickets at 26.2 apiece. He was more prolific with the bat in one-dayers, hitting 485 at 44.1, including four fifties and a century. But he is best remembered for his accusing a Sussex fan of spitting at him while he fielding in the deep during a C & G Trophy defeat at Hove.

ADAM VOGES (2007)

Played seven T20 games for Hampshire in 2007, but after flying over at short notice for his first county stint he only made one score of note; an unbeaten 66 in a nine-wicket defeat against Sussex. Has played for Notts for the last five seasons.

STUART CLARK (2007)

Was one of the world's best bowlers when he starred for Hampshire in 2007, his 26 wickets at just 17 apiece the previous winter having gone a long way to whitewashing England and winning the Ashes back for Australia. His 21 one-day wickets at 11.4, including 6-27 against Surrey, were a major factor in Hampshire reaching the 2007 Friends Provident Trophy final. Had he been available, Hampshire would surely have put up a better fight than they did in losing so convincingly to Durham in the final. Clark also took 24 Championship wickets at 25.08 from six matches, including a brilliant spell of 7-82 against Lancashire.

IAN HARVEY (2008)

Played as a Twenty20 pinch-hitter but failed to pass 34 in nine appearances as Hampshire failed to progress beyond the group stage. The veteran all-rounder played one more season of county cricket, for Northants the following season.

MARCUS NORTH (2009)

His Hampshire career lasted just one innings of an early-season County Championship draw at Warwickshire. Better known for stints with Durham (2004), Lancashire (2005), Derbyshire (2006), Gloucestershire (2007-08) and Glamorgan (2012-present), who he will captain next year.

DAN CHRISTIAN (2010)

His role in the 2010 Friends Provident t20 final will never be forgotten, so often it is replayed.

The all-rounder had had a fairly non-descript summer as Hampshire's second overseas player, before arriving at the creased with the Royals requiring ten to win from the last eight balls of the final against Somerset under the Rose Bowl floodlights.

He faced the last ball from Zander de Bruyn - who had given him a memorable black eye with a bouncer in Christian's only Championship appearance a few days earlier - with Hampshire needing a single to level the scores and win on fewer wickets lost.

Christian was batting with Jimmy Adams as his runner after tearing a thigh muscle in sprinting two off the previous delivery.

But he instinctively set off for a leg bye, forgetting Adams was there - as well as his own injury.

Fortunately, Somerset failed to react and missed the opportunity to run him out and win at the death.

PHIL HUGHES (2010)

Endured a brief and unsuccessful stint with Hampshire two years ago, scoring 85 runs at just 14.16 apiece in three Championship appearances. He did not fare any better in his two one-day appearances, but was low on confidence.

It is nearly a year since he played the last of his 17 Tests but he only turned 24 on Friday.

DOMINIC THORNELY (2006)

His 759 runs at 34.5 was a mediocre

Nemesis on move

TWO of Hampshire's promotion rivals have plumped for experience as they aim to challenge at the top of next year's County Championship Second Division.

Hampshire have signed 30-year-old Australian batsman George Bailey, and will also welcome back Neil McKenzie - who turned 37 last weekend - for the second half of the county season.

Both Lancashire and Glamorgan have also gone down the thirtysomething route.

Lancashire have signed ex-Hampshire batsman Simon Katich, 37, while Glamorgan have snapped up someone even older - 39-year-old Murray Goodwin, so often a nemesis for Hampshire.

Goodwin has bid farewell to Sussex after a superb 12-year career with the south coast county, where he scored more than 24,000 runs in all competitions.

"He will strengthen the batting lineup," said Glamorgan Head of Elite Performance Matthew Mott.

"And has plenty to offer to benefit our batting group."

"Murray has played the best part of his career at Sussex and had a massive affect on Sussex cricket, so we can't wait to have him in the squad."

"He is a really good role model with plenty of first division experience and it is evident from our recent discussions that he still has a real determination to succeed."

Goodwin won seven trophies during his time at Sussex - including three County Championship crowns - and was a regular last season averaging 32 runs in the Twenty20, 26 runs in the CB40 but just 16 in first-class cricket.

Glamorgan struggled in County Championships Division Two last season, winning just three games.

Goodwin said: "I have had lengthy conversations with Matthew Mott and am aware of the challenges the team



MURRAY GOODWIN

faced last year and the hard work that lies ahead of us, but I am determined to help bring success back to the Club."

"I feel I still have a lot to offer in all formats of the game."

Hampshire have certainly suffered at Goodwin's bat.

In 27 first class innings against the Royals, he has scored five centuries and six half-centuries at an average of 59.16.

His tally of 1,430 runs against Hampshire is surpassed only by his 1,453 against Nottinghamshire at 60.54, while he has also scored five Championship tons against Warwickshire.

Goodwin's highest score against Hampshire remains the 195 he scored in the Ageas Bowl's debut season of 2001.

It was his first ever Championship century, and passed his previous career best by just a single run.

Lancashire, meanwhile, will no doubt start the 2013 Championship season as amongst the favourites to go up.

Having won the title in 2011, the Red Rose county were demoted last summer after finishing second bottom.

Despite both Steve Kerrigan (44) and Glen Chapple (42) taking over 40

wickets each, the county had the lowest bowling points total in the top flight and the third lowest batting points total.

While Katich has been signed to boost the batting, Lancashire will be hoping Ali - 32 last weekend - can return to the sort of form he once enjoyed with Worcestershire.

He bagged 71 first class wickets in 2002 while he also took 56 and 59 wickets in the 2007 and 2008 campaigns respectively.

But injuries have dogged him since, and in the last four English summers he has only managed 65 first class wickets all told.

Essex might be in the market for an overseas player after South African Alviro Petersen moved to Somerset. The batsman was a big success for Glamorgan in 2011, scoring 1,046 Second Division Championship runs at 42.76.

Essex would have hoped for a similar haul last summer, but he only managed 245 runs from 11 innings at 21.36 - and 145 of those came in one visit to the crease.

One man Essex have signed is Sajid Mahmood, who played eight Tests for England but who was released by Lancashire last summer.

Mahmood only played three Championship games for the Red Rose county in 2012, while veteran spinner Gary Keedy, who has joined Surrey after being released, only appeared in four.

Keedy, 38, had been at Old Trafford since the mid-1990s, taking over 650 first class wickets.

Leicestershire, who have never seriously challenged for promotion in recent years, have signed Irish t20 World Cup player Niall O'Brien.

Wicket-keeper/batsman O'Brien, who started his career at Kent, had been playing at Northants since 2007.

Last season he was included in the county's first six Championship games, but never featured again.

COUNTY CRICKET INS AND OUTS

DERBYSHIRE

In: Richard Johnson (Warwickshire), Billy Godleman (Essex)
Out: Garry Park, Matt Lineker (released)

DURHAM

In:
Out: Liam Plunkett (Yorkshire)

ESSEX

In: Sajid Mahmood (Lancashire)
Out: Billy Godleman (Derbyshire), Michael Comber (released), Charl Willoughby (retired)

GLAMORGAN

In: Andrew Salter (youth), Murray Goodwin (Sussex)
Out: James Harris (Middlesex), Robert Croft (retired), Chris Ashling, Aneurin Norman, Mike O'Shea (released)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

In: Gareth Roderick, Cameron Herring, Craig Miles, Matt Taylor (youth)
Out: David Wade (released), Jonathan Batty (retired)

HAMPSHIRE

In: Michael Roberts, Jack Sheppard (Second XI), George Bailey (Australia)
Out: Kabir Ali (Lancashire), Simon Katich (Lancashire) Bilal Shafayat (released)

KENT

In:
Out: Simon Cook (released)

LANCASHIRE

In: Alex Davies, Gavin Griffiths, Arron Lilley, Luis Reece (youth), Kabir Ali (Hampshire), Simon Katich (Australia)
Out: Sajid Mahmood, Naqaash Tahir (released), Gary Keedy (Surrey)

LEICESTERSHIRE

In: Tom Wells, Angus Robson, Ollie Freckingham (youth), Robbie Williams (Middlesex), Niall O'Brien (Northamptonshire)
Out: Jacques du Toit, Nadeem Malik, Robbie Joseph (released), Will Jones, Paul Dixey, Will Jefferson (retired)

MIDDLESEX

In: Nick Gubbins (youth),

James Harris (Glamorgan)
Out: Scott Newman, Anthony Ireland, Tom Scollay (released), Steven Crook (Northamptonshire), Robbie Williams (Leicestershire)

NORTHANTS

In: Olly Stone (youth), Matthew Sprigel (Surrey), Steven Crook (Middlesex), Ben Duckett, James Kettleborough, Rob Keogh, Christian Davis (youth)
Out: Ben Howgo, Dave Burton, Chaminda Vaas (released), Jack Brooks (Yorkshire), Niall O'Brien (Leicestershire)

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

In: Ajmal Shahzad (Yorkshire)
Out: Darren Pattinson, Scott Elstone, Karl Turner, Neil Edwards (released)

SOMERSET

In: Alviro Petersen (South Africa)
Out:

SURREY

In: Vikram Solanki (Worcestershire), Gary Keedy

(Lancashire), Graeme Smith (South Africa)
Out: Matthew Sprigel (Northamptonshire), Tom Lancelfield, Chris Jordan (released), Rory Hamilton-Brown (Sussex)

SUSSEX

In: Rory Hamilton-Brown (Surrey)
Out: Andrew Hodd (Yorkshire), Murray Goodwin, Naveed Arif Gondal, Will Adkin (released)

WARWICKSHIRE

In:
Out: Neil Carter (retired), Richard Johnson (Derbyshire)

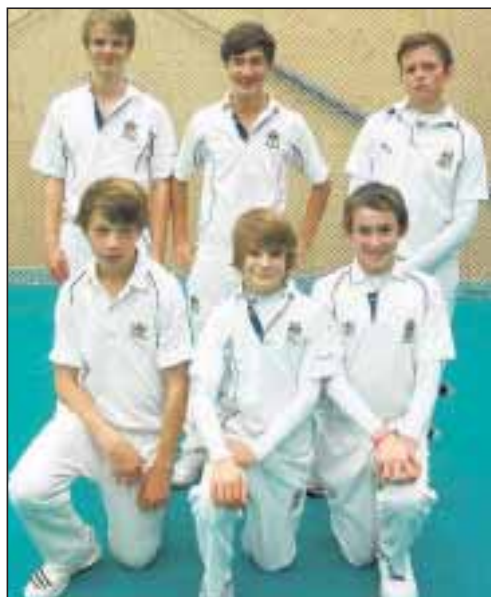
WORCESTERSHIRE

In:
Out: Vikram Solanki (Surrey), James Cameron (retired), Ben Scott (retired)

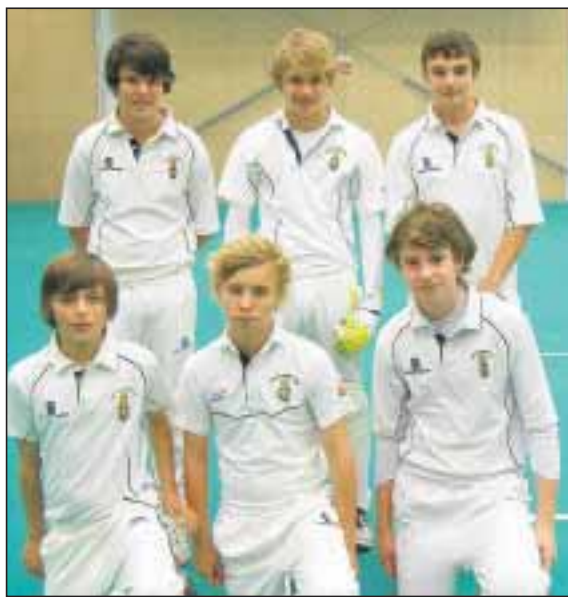
YORKSHIRE

In: Jack Brooks (Northamptonshire), Andrew Hodd (Sussex), Liam Plunkett (Durham)
Out: Gerard Brophy (released), Ajmal Shahzad (Nottinghamshire)

Local Cricket Spotlight



ALTON



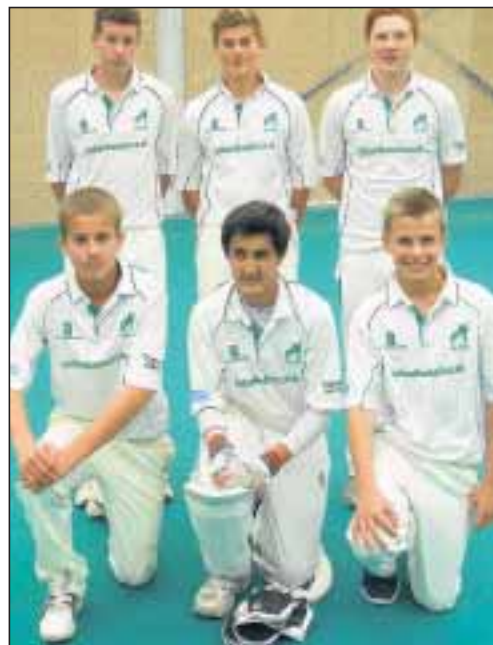
PARLEY



SPIN CRICKET



ISLE OF WIGHT



NEW FOREST

Bank on close finish in NatWest champs

THE NatWest Under-16 Indoor Cricket Championships, which take place at The Ageas Bowl on Sunday evenings throughout the winter, are set to have the closest contest in 12 years since the competition began.

Eight weeks into the season and only Basingstoke & North Hants and the Isle of Wight Cricket Board remain unbeaten – and, by coincidence, they go head-to-head this Sunday evening, **writes MIKE VIMPANY.**

With the young but talented Parley side also on show, both unbeaten sides will need to keep their wits about them.

South Wilts' batsman/wicketkeeper Ben Draper currently leads the run-scoring charts, with Parley leg spinner Dom Clutterbuck top wicket taker.

SUNDAY'S FIXTURES

6 Isle of Wight v Parley, 7 Basingstoke & North Hants v Isle of Wight, 8 Basingstoke & North Hants v Parley.

LEADING PERFORMERS

Batting: Ben Draper (South Wilts) 125 runs, Dan Scott (Alton) 119, Josh McCoy (Havant) 115, William Wade (South Wilts) 115, Joe Theobald (Hursley Park) 114, Brad Taylor (Basingstoke & North Hants) 99.

Bowling: Dom Clutterbuck (Parley) 7 wickets, Robbie Pack (Bournemouth) 5, Ben White (SE Hants) 5, Will Reed (Havant) 5, Josh McCoy (Havant) 5.

RESULTS TO DATE

Round 1: Hursley Park 124-3 (13) (Theobald 33*, Lawrence 26*, Pullen 24*) New Forest 102-4 (2) (Watts 24), Hursley Park won by 22 runs.

Havant 46 (0) (McCoy 24, Matthews 2-1, Clutterbuck 2-12) Parley 47-1 (15), Parley won by five wickets.

Hambledon 141-3 (13) (Brown 42, Prentice 21, White 3-40) South East Hants 138-3 (3) (Palmer-Goddard 22, Allen 20, Robbins 18, Thomas 18, Brown 2-36). Hambledon won by three runs.

Round 2: Alton 117-4 (2) (Scott 26*, Collier 2-21) IOW 135-3 (14) (Collier 40*, J Proctor 30*, Niemcewicz 20*), IOW won by 18 runs

Bournemouth 152-5 (16) (H Weal 48*) South



PACE-SETTERS: Hursley Park.

Wilts 94-6 (2) (W Wade 63, P Rutland 2-25). Bournemouth won by 58 runs.

Round 3: South Wilts 160-3 (15) (Draper 26*, Arnold 25*, Williams 23*) Spin Cricket 159-5 (4) (Howarth 42, Fay 36, Evans 35*, Wade 3-38. South Wilts won by 1 run.

Havant 81-6 (2) (E Windsor 31, S Arnold 3-17, C Wheeler 2-18) South Wilts 140-4 (15) (B Draper 46*, Y Williams 29*). South Wilts won by 59 runs.

Havant 120-4 (3) (McCoy 39*, Gorvin 27, Pitts Melan 2-23) Spin Cricket 152-5 (15) (Bass 32, Howarth 26, Pitts Melan 20*, McCoy 3-36, Read 2-27). Spin Cricket won by 32 runs.

Round 4: Alton 123-2 (2) (Scott 26*, Hammond 26*) Hursley Park 126-3 (13) (R Pike 29*, T Lawrence 29, R Pullen 26*, D Scott 2-23). Hursley Park won by 3 runs.

Hursley Park 62-6 (3) South East Hants 80-6 (13) (J Palmer-Goddard 43, R Pike 2-6, J Theobald 2-30). South East Hants won by 18 runs.

Alton 119-6 (1) (Hammond 40, Scott 38) South East Hants 123-1 (16) (B White 26*, R Robbins 25*, R Fittell 23*). South East Hants won by 5 wickets.

Round 5: Bournemouth 141-3 (14) (Weal 25*, Rutland 25*, Clutterbuck 3-33) Parley 87-5 (1) (Head 31*, R Pack 2-16). Bournemouth won by 54 runs.

Bournemouth 129-3 (4) (P Rutland 29*, L Matthews 29*, C Snell 25*) Hambledon 130-5 (13) (R Prentice 36*, O Atkinson 27, R Pack 2-33). Hambledon won by 1 wkt.

Hambledon 82-6 (1) (Harris 2-16, Clutterbuck 2-20) Parley 84-3 (14) (R Prentice 2-20). Parley won by 3 wickets.

Round 6: Basingstoke & North Hants 114-4

(13) (Matthew 36*, Taylor 28*, Watts 2-25) New Forest 111-3 (3) (Loseby 30*, Watts 25*). Basingstoke & North Hants won by 2 wks.

Havant 108-3 (1) (Gorvin 27*, McCoy 25*, Hovey 23) Basingstoke & North Hants 109-1 (Taylor 25*, Neal 25*). Basingstoke & North Hants won by 5 wickets.

Round 7: Isle of Wight 135-2 (15) (Duggan 44*, Proctor 26*, Herridge 26*) South Wilts 126-6 (3) (Wade 31, Draper 25) Isle of Wight won by 9 runs.

Isle of Wight 139-5 (15) (H Collier 41) Hursley Park 122-6 (3) (J Theobald 41). Isle of Wight won by 17 runs.

South Wilts 121-2 (2) (B Draper 26*, M Burton 24*) Hursley Park 124-3 (13) (J Theobald 37*, O Bailey 26*). Hursley Park won by 3 wks.

Round 8: New Forest 102-4 (14) (Loseby 26*, Woodhall 24*) Alton 69-6 (2) (Newman 2-21, Woodhall 2-25). New Forest won by 33 runs.

Spin Cricket 94-6 (2) (Culmer 29) New Forest 95-5 (Nichols 31*, Loseby 31, Birnie 2-15, Faye 2-19). New Forest won by 1 wicket.

Alton 109-2 (2) (Scott 29*, Hammond 25*) Spin Cricket 110-4 (14) (Birnie 26*, Culmer 25*). Spin Cricket won 2 wickets.

STANDINGS

	P	W	L	BP	Pts
Hursley Park	5	3	2	15	45
IOWCB	5	3	0	14	44
Basingstoke	3	3	0	10	40
Spin Cricket	5	2	3	18	38
South Wilts	5	2	3	17	37
Bournemouth	3	2	1	14	34
South East Hants	3	2	1	12	32
New Forest	5	2	3	12	32
Parley	3	2	1	10	30
Hambledon	3	2	1	7	27
Havant	5	1	4	11	21
Alton	5	0	5	9	9



SOUTH EAST HANTS



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Non-league Football

OILERS BOSS MAINTAINS BACKING FOR BEMERTON



HAT-TRICK: Bemerton's Jack Slade.

FAWLEY AFC boss Colin Lane tipped Bemerton Heath Harlequins to become Sydenhams League champions before the start of the season – and sees no reason to change his mind.

The Oilers lost 4-3 at Bemerton's Western Way headquarters last Saturday and might even have snatched a draw.

But, hand on heart, Lane says it would have been extremely harsh on the Harlequins to have missed out on a full quota of points.

"I tipped Bemerton to win the league – and I'm sticking with that one!" he said.

"We missed an open goal at the end, so it could have been 4-4, but Bemerton deserved the win.

"Although we scored three against them, they're quite solid at the back – and they're scoring goals.

"Their movement up front is very good and it wasn't until afterwards that I realised Jack Slade had scored a hat-trick for them.

"If I'm honest, they're the first team to have opened us right up."

Lane has no real interest in who wins the league, preferring to focus all his attention on steering mid-table Fawley to the highest possible height.

But, having faced most of the big guns, he so far rates Bemerton and Moneyfields as the pick of the crop and would like to see Ian Chalk's Harlequins go a step further than the runners-up spot they have achieved for the past two seasons.

"We've still got Downton to play (today) and Blackfield & Langley, who were my outside bet," said Lane.

"But, at the moment, the best team we've played is either Bemerton and Moneyfields.

"We drew 1-1 with Christchurch and against Moneyfields we lost 2-0, but we held out for 78 minutes and missed two one-on-ones before they scored.

"I don't really care who wins the league because I'm only concerned with what we do, but if I had to choose I'd prefer Bemerton to win it because they're well organised and disciplined and they've been runners-up for a few years now."

Having fallen behind to a Danny Young

goal, Fawley hit straight back through Leighton Speechley-Price, pictured.

But with hat-trick man Jack Slade running riot, they found themselves 3-1 down at half-time and conceded again early in the second half.

To their credit, though, the Oilers clawed their way back into the contest through Matt Vining and Steve Hall before squandering a good chance late on.

"It's the first time since we lost 7-4 at Hamworthy that I can criticise our defending," said Lane.

"It's disappointing to have conceded four, but fair play to the lads for the way they battled back from 4-1 down."

For Bemerton, victory extended their unbeaten run to 11 games across all competitions. It lifted them level on points with second-placed Christchurch who they are due to visit on Tuesday (December 4, 7.45pm).

Harlequins boss Chalk agreed with Lane's assessment that Bemerton were worthy winners.

Along with scoring a hat-trick, the unstoppable Slade also hit the woodwork with two headers.

"The scoreline made it look like a close games, but it was all us for 80 minutes," said Chalk.

"Fawley had only lost one in seven before this game, but we could have had double figures.

"It was the Jack Slade show after he had got his first one."

Fawley's week deteriorated on Wednesday when they well beaten 4-2 at home by Fareham Town.

For the second evening game running, kick-off at Long Lane was delayed due to faulty floodlights and the Oilers lost first-choice keeper Joe Prodomo to a back injury in the warm-up.

Prodomo's replacement Steve Moss was beaten by Liam Robinson and Louis Martin as Fareham led 2-0 at half-time. Leighton Speechley-Price pulled one back but then missed a penalty with his side 3-1 down. Tommy Winzar and Graham Lindsey stretched Town's lead before Rob Flookes replied late on.

"We were shocking," admitted Oilers boss Colin Lane. "Take nothing away from Fareham, but it was probably our worst performance in the last 11 games.

"We learned the hard way that if you don't compete in the first half, you get punished."

Lane won't back down over squad rotation

AARON Cousens' decision to part company with Fawley AFC has come as a major disappointment to manager Colin Lane.

Despite making six Wessex starts and three substitute appearances for the Oilers, the recently signed forward decided to move on because he wasn't seeing enough of the action.

"Aaron's not been with us long and he was playing, but he's left because he wasn't getting a game every week," said Lane.

"He was with me at AFC Totton reserves and was with Hedge End

Rangers before that.

"I had a chat with him and explained that it's a squad game and I'm disappointed that he's gone."

Lane, though, will not back down on the issue of squad rotation.

"When you're playing three games in eight days, you've got to rotate a bit, I'm adamant about that," he said.

"If you stick with the same players, they're weary by the time the third game comes around.

"Aaron found squad rotation frustrating, but I've spoken to a couple of other players about it and they're

starting to understand my reasons for doing it."

With Fawley occupying a highly respectable mid-table spot, Lane's challenge is to manage his squad as best as he can to ensure a top-half finish.

But, predictably, the job is getting tougher as the season progresses.

"We've picked up a few knocks and we've got three players who are one game away from suspension," he said.

"I'm down to 17 or 18 players to choose from at the moment, but I'm

not too worried about that because we've got two or three good players in the reserves."

The Oilers now have three players battling long-term injury. Manager's son Nick Lane (broken hand) and talented midfielder Lewis Ross (ankle ligaments) are sidelined until after Christmas.

And the same now goes for ex-AFC Totton and Sholing striker Darren Morris who went over on his ankle against Moneyfields and will be out for a couple of months with ligament damage.

FIXTURES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, December 3

FA CUP
Second round: Cheltenham v Hereford.
BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE
Newcastle v Wigan.
FA TROPHY
First round replay: Chelmsford v Hampton & Richmond.
BARCLAYS U21 PREMIER LEAGUE
National Group 2: Southampton U21 v Man Utd U21 (7pm).
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Division One South & West: Hungerford v Merthyr Town.

Tuesday, December 4

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
Group A: Dinamo Zagreb v Dynamo Kiev, PSG v FC Porto.
Group B: Montpellier v Schalke 04, Olympique v Arsenal.
Group C: AC Milan v Zenit St Petersburg, Malaga v Anderlecht.
Group D: Borussia Dortmund v Man City, Real Madrid v Ajax.
JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY
Southern section quarter-final: Plymouth v Oxford Utd, Southend v Brentford, Yeovil v Wycombe.
Northern section quarter-final: Bury v Preston, Coventry v Sheff Utd, Crewe v Doncaster, Port Vale v Bradford.
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: AFC Telford v Barrow, Alfreton Town v Wrexham, Ebbsfleet United v Cambridge Utd, Gateshead v Grimsby, Lincoln City v Woking, Macclesfield v Hyde, Nuneaton v Dartford, Tamworth v Kidderminster.
South: Sutton v Hayes & Yeading, Welling v Bromley.
FA TROPHY
First round: Braintree Town v Havant and W, Doncaster v Sheff Utd, Oxford City v Bishop's Cleeve.
First round replay: Luton v Dorchester.
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: Barwell v Leamington, Cambridge City v Banbury, Chesham v Weymouth.
Division One South & West: Bridgwater v Yate, Poole Town v Swindon Supermarine.
HAMPSHIRE SENIOR CUP
Third round: AFC Bournemouth v Fleet Town, AFC Totton v Horndean, Alresford Town v Aldershot Town, Fleet Spurs v Eastleigh, GE Hamble v Basingstoke Town, Gosport Borough v Blackfield & Langley.
SYDENHAMS LEAGUE
Premier Division: Bournemouth Poppies v Fareham Town, Christchurch v Bemerton HH, Hayling Utd v Romsey Town.
WILTSHIRE SENIOR CUP
Second round: Devizes v Downton.
DORSET SENIOR CUP
Quarter-final: Wimborne Tn v Dorchester Tn.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
WCL Cup, third round: Dorchester Town v US Portsmouth.

Wednesday, December 5

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
Group E: Chelsea v FC Nordsjaelland, Shakhtar Donetsk v Juventus.
Group F: Bayern Munich v BATE, Lille v Valencia.
Group G: Barcelona v Benfica, Celtic v Spartak Moscow.
Group H: Braga v Galatasaray, Man Utd v CFR Cluj-Napoca.
JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY
Southern section quarter-final: Northampton v Leyton Orient.
HAMPSHIRE SENIOR CUP
Third round: Newport IOW v Sholing, Totton & Eling v Havant & Waterlooville.
DORSET SENIOR TROPHY
Third round: Gillingham Tn Res v Poole Tn Res.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
WCL Cup, third round: Fleet Town v Christchurch, Gosport Borough v Fawley AFC or Newport IOW.

Thursday, December 6

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE
Group A: Udinese v Liverpool, Young Boys v Anzhi Makhachkala.
Group B: Hapoel Tel-Aviv v Academica, Plzen v Atletico Madrid.
Group C: AEL v Marseille, Fenerbahce v Borussia M'gladbach.
Group D: Bordeaux v Newcastle, Maritimo v Club Brugge.
Group E: FC Copenhagen v Steaua Bucuresti, VfB Stuttgart v Molde.
Group F: Dinpro v AIK, Napoli v PSV.
Group G: Genk v Basle, Sporting v Videoton.
Group H: Inter Milan v Neftchi, Partizan Belgrade v Rubin Kazan.
Group I: Athletic Bilbao v Sparta Prague, Lyon v Hapoel Kiryat Shmona.
Group J: Maribor v Lazio, Tottenham v Panathinaikos.
Group K: Bayer Leverkusen v Rosenborg, Rapid Vienna v FC Metzlihi.
Group L: FC Twente v Helsingborgs IF, Levante v Hannover 96.
SYDENHAMS LEAGUE
Division One: Andover NS v Brockenhurst.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
WCL Cup, third round: Blackfield & Langley

v Hayling United.
Premier Division: Bashley v Sholing, Winchester City v Moneyfields.

Friday, December 7

npower FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Championship: Blackburn v Cardiff.
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: Barrow v Hereford.

Saturday, December 8

(FL games 3pm, KO unless stated)
BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE
Arsenal v West Brom, Aston Villa v Stoke, Saints v Reading, Sunderland v Chelsea, Swansea v Norwich, Wigan v QPR.
npower FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Championship: Charlton v Brighton, Crystal Palace v Blackpool, Derby v Leeds (1.00), Huddersfield v Bolton, Ipswich v Millwall, Leicester v Barnsley, Nottm Forest v Burnley, Peterborough v Middlesbrough, Sheff Wed v Bristol City, Watford v Hull, Wolverhampton v Birmingham (5.20).
League 1: Brentford v Milton Keynes Dons, Bury v Leyton Orient, Carlisle v Sheff Utd, Colchester v Oldham, Coventry v Walsall, Crawley Tn v Shrewsbury, Hartlepool v Stevenage, Preston v Crewe, Scunthorpe v Bournemouth, Swindon v Doncaster, Tranmere v Portsmouth, Yeovil v N County.
League 2: Barnet v AFC Wimbledon, Bradford v Torquay, Bristol Rovers v Dag & Red, Fleetwood Town v Southend, Northampton v Cheltenham, Oxford Utd v Aldershot, Plymouth v York, Port Vale v Chesterfield, Rochdale v Exeter, Rotherham v Gillingham, Wycombe v Morecambe.
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: Cambridge Utd v Gateshead, Dartford v Lincoln City, Forest Green v Macclesfield, Grimsby v Tamworth, Hyde v AFC Telford, Kidderminster v Notts County, Luton v Alfreton Tn, Mansfield v Ebbsfleet United, Southport v Braintree Tn, Woking v Stockport, Wrexham v Nuneaton.
South: Basingstoke v Tonbridge Angels, Billericay v Bath City, Boreham Wood v Truro, Bromley v Farnborough, Dorchester v Sutton, Dover v Eastleigh, Havant & Waterlooville v Staines, Maidenhead v Eastbourne Borough, Salisbury v Chelmsford, Welling v Hayes & Yeading, Weston-S-Mare v AFC Hornchurch.
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Totton v Bedworth, Banbury v Bashley, Bideford v Hemel Hempstead, Frome v Barwell, Hitchin v Bedford, Redditch v Cambridge City, St Albans v Leamington, St Neots v Gosport Borough, Stourbridge v Chippenham, Weymouth v Arlesley.
Division One South & West: Bishops Cleeve v Didcot, Bridgwater v North Leigh, Clevedon v Swindon Supermarine, Evesham v Taunton, Hungerford v Cinderford, Mangotsfield v Wimborne, Merthyr Tn v Yate, Paulton Rovers v Winchester City, Poole Tn v Cirencester, Sholing v Tiverton, Shortwood v Abingdon U.
FA VASE
Third round: Arley Utd v Newport IOW, Bodmin v Downton, GE Hamble v Blackfield & Langley, Horndean v Bemerton HH.
SYDENHAMS LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Portchester v Christchurch, Alresford v Bournemouth Poppies, Hamworthy Utd v Fareham Tn, Lymington Tn v Romsey Tn, Verwood v Fawley AFC.
Division One: Amesbury v Team Solent, Brockenhurst v US Portsmouth, Cowes Sports v Fleet Spurs, Hythe & Dibden v Laversock & Ford, Petersfield v East Cowes Vics, Ringwood v Pewsey Vale, Stockbridge v Whitechurch, Tadley Calveia v Andover NS.
PUMA ENGINEERING HPL
Senior Division: AFC Stoneham v OK Southampton, Clarendon v Sporting BW, Colden Common v AFC Aldermaston, Hamble Club v Liss Ath, Hedge End Rangers v Bournemouth Sports, Overton v Otterbourne, Paulsgrove v Liphook, University of Portsmouth v Locks Heath, Winchester Castle v Fleetlands.
Combination Division: AFC Aldermaston v Winchester Castle, Bournemouth Sports v Hedge End Rangers, Fleetlands v Colden Common, Liphook v Paulsgrove, Liss Ath v AFC Stoneham, Locks Heath v Hamble Club, Otterbourne v Clarendon, Sporting BW v Overton.
MAGNATA CARE HANTS LEAGUE 2004
Andover Lions v Upham, Broughton v Crusaders, Four Marks v Infinity, Lyndhurst v Forest Town, Michelmersh & Timsbury v Durlley.
DORSET SENIOR TROPHY
Third round: Wimborne Town Res v Poundbury Rovers.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division: Christchurch v Salisbury City, Gosport Borough v AFC Portchester.
Division One East: Team Solent v Tadley Calveia, US Portsmouth v Alresford Town.
Division One West: East Cowes Vics v Lymington Tn, Fawley AFC v Verwood Tn.
Wyvern Challenge Shield: Group A: Newport IOW v Fareham Tn; Group B: Whitechurch Utd v Laversock & Ford; Group C: Hayling Utd v Romsey Tn, New Milton Town v Ringwood Tn; Group D: Alton Tn v Petersfield Town, Blackfield & Langley v Hythe & Dibden.

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Horse Racing

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SUNDAY'S CARD LEICESTER

Hdle: Sft-Hvy in pics; Ch: Gd to Sft-Gd in pics, Soft on Flat course crossings

12.50 FERNIE NOVICES' HURDLE (CLASS 4). £5,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,249.

101	245-21	DUNLOUGH BAY (IRE) (19) P Webber 6 11 5	D O'Regan
102	3P0F-	CALLIMHWATYOUWANT (IRE) (210) Dr R Newland 7 10 12	C Ward (7)
103		CLOUDY START (F97) Violet Jordan 6 10 12	W Kennedy
104	304-	CONSIGLIORI (IRE) (401) N Kent 7 10 12	Charles Greene (7)
105	P23-2	DUNGEEL (IRE) (210) D McCain 6 10 12	J Kingston (3)
106	2	MALAPIE (IRE) (197) Mrs C Bailey 4 10 12	D Bass
107		MECOX BAY (IRE) (F202) Jennie Candlish 5 10 12	S Quinlan
108	6P	OYSTER HILL (24) M Keighley 5 10 12	A P Cawley
109	P3-54	QUADRATO (GER) (22) T Vaughan 5 10 12	R Johnson
110	6	RADIO NOWHERE (IRE) (18) (BF) D McCain 4 10 12	A P Lane
111	034-55	SAROUKE (IRE) (25) Miss V Williams 5 10 12	L Treadwell
112	000-1	SQUIRE TRELAWNEY (30) M Appleby 6 10 12	R Mahon (3)
113	2-1	WYCHWOODS BROOK (22) G McPherson 6 10 12	P Brennan
114	206-21	YOUNG HURRICANE (IRE) (23) (D) Dr R Newland 6 10 12	T J O'Brien
115	600-	ARROWMINT (237) N Pomfret 6 10 5	T Whelan (5)

BETTING: 11-4 Young Hurricane, 7-2 Dunlough Bay, 5-1 Dungeel, 6-1 Wychwoods Brook, Radio Nowhere, 14-1 Sarouke, Callimhwatyouwant, Quadrato, 25-1 others.

1.20 EAST FARNDON SELLING HURDLE (CLASS 5). £3,000 added 4 to 7YO 2m Penalty Value £1,949.

201	61/50-	ERIN DANCER (IRE) (427) F Murphy 7 11 4	T Kelly (5)
202	3434-10	REACTION (15) (D) M Appleby 6 11 4	R Mahon (3)
203	054-36	ARCHITRAVE (26) T J Vaughan 5 10 12	R Johnson
204	U30-00	MAGNITUDE (F18) B Bough 7 10 12	T Phelan
205	5P56-6	THE SOCIETY MAN (IRE) (307) S J Davies 5 10 12	L Treadwell
206	0-0622	WOM (13) (D) N King 4 10 12	T Whelan (5)

BETTING: 5-4 Architrave, 2-1 Reaction, 5-1 Wom, 8-1 Erin Dancer, 25-1 The Society Man, 33-1 Magnitude.

1.50 LEICESTER RACECOURSE SUPPORTING HEROES AT HORSEBACK UK HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 4). £6,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m 7f 110yds Penalty Value £3,899.

301	10U-0P	KEY CUTTER (FR) (38) (D) P Webber 8 11 12	D O'Regan
302	P130-2	PLUM PUDDING (FR) (27) (D) G Smyly 9 11 9	D England
303	4564-13	ANOTHER TRUMP (NZ) (38) Jonjo O'Neill 8 11 7	R McLernon
304	44P-P	TAFIKA (FR) (27) P Webber 8 11 2	L Treadwell
305	P126-6	PLINY (IRE) (436) S Bowen 8 11 1	J Moore
306	-1114U	ALVY (IRE) (459) N King 7 11 1	A Merriman
307	-42025	BALLYHLITY BRIDGE (26) P Henderson 6 11 1	T J O'Brien
308	31-34	AMROTH BAY (183) (D)BF Jennie Candlish 8 11 1	S Quinlan
309	111-15	HUCKLEBERRY (IRE) (179) (D) A Carroll 10 11 0	L Edwards
310	4131-	HANDTHEPRIZEOVER (398) (D) (D) B Case 7 10 13	D Jacob
311	151224	DELGANY GUNNER (125) (D) J King 8 10 9	T Whelan (5)
312	P01-P0	WHERRIMON (13) (CD) Mrs C Bailey 8 10 8	A Thornton

313 2215-1 GUYDUS (IRE) (35) Miss V Williams 8 10 0 H Challoner (5)
BETTING: 9-2 Another Trump, 5-1 Guydus, 6-1 Handtheprizeover, 8-1 Amroth Bay, Ballynoneen, 10-1 Pliny, Delgany Gunner, 12-1 Ballyhlity Bridge, Huckleberry, 14-1 others.

2.25 LUBENHAM MARES' BEGINNERS' CHASE (CLASS 3). £7,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £4,549.

401	105-60	A LITTLE SWIFTER (IRE) (8) (D) N King 6 11 0	A Merriman
402	00-0P-	GENS BENEFIT (IRE) (326) C Beatty 8 11 0	T Messenger
403	62P406	HOPEAND (29) C Pogson 7 11 0	A Pogson
404	00-145	KYKATE (20) (D) W Kinsey 6 11 0	D O'Regan
405	61402-	TARA ROSE (276) (D) N Twiston-Davies 7 11 0	S Twiston-Davies
406	43205-	JACKIES SOLITAIRE (253) (D) A Honeyball 4 10 8	Rachael Green (3)

BETTING: 6-4 Tara Rose, 7-4 Jackies Solitaire, 5-1 A Little Swifter, 13-2 Kykate, 25-1 Gers Benefit, 33-1 Hopeand.

2.55 T.P. 70TH BIRTHDAY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 5). £3,600 added 4YO PLUS 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £2,339.

501	46P-5P	CAULFIELDS VENTURE (IRE) (31) A Turrell 6 11 12	N Scholfield
502	F-5P0P	CHASE GATE (40) (D) J Frost 7 11 10	H Frost
503	023435	THE FOX'S DECREE (61) M Keighley 8 11 8	D Hiskett (7)
504	63104F	FOREVER MY FRIEND (IRE) (12) (D)BF P Bowen 5 11 6	J Moore
505	435014	SECRET DESERT (23) (D)BF F Murphy 6 10 10	T Kelly (5)
506	4432-0	WITCH'S HAT (IRE) (194) J Old 9 10 9	M Grant
507	3046-3	THORNCLIFFER (13) D Shaw 8 10 5	D Garner (7)
508	652511	PEAK SEASONS (IRE) (12) (CD) M Chapman 9 10 1	G J Galligan (10)

BETTING: 2-1 Forever My Friend, 11-4 Peak Seasons, 9-2 Secret Desert, 8-1 Witch's Hat, 10-1 The Fox's Decree, Thorncliffer, 16-1 Caulfields Venture, 25-1 Chase Gate.

3.30 MARKET HARBOROUGH HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 4). £5,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £3,249.

601	150-00	COLEBROOKE (29) (D) Mrs P Robson 4 11 12	J Moore
602	641U-0	BALLYBRIGGAN (IRE) (675) (D) D McCain 8 11 12	A P Lane
603	1151-0	TOP WOOD (FR) (16) (D) D Pipe 5 11 12	H Frost
604	4221-4	SNAKE CHARMER (415) (D) D Pipe 5 11 12	D Crossie
605	0-0042	TRIP THE LIGHT (36) (D) P W Middleton 7 11 9	T Garner (7)
606	2P2600	RED HOT POKER (10) (D) N Twiston-Davies 10 11 6	S Twiston-Davies
607	644-11	GENERAL TING (IRE) (22) (D) Mrs L Wadham 7 11 6	L Aspell
608	331U00	VIOLETS BOY (IRE) (14) B Powell 5 11 4	B J Powell (3)
609	354U-0	NEMO SPIRIT (IRE) (318) D C O'Brien 7 11 2	Mr J Pearce (7)
610	P50P-1	SACRILEGE (F16) (CD) D C O'Brien 7 11 2	M Batchelor
611	4303F-	BOBACATBILLY (IRE) (268) J Williams 6 11 1	P Brennan
612	1004-3	MINISKY MINE (IRE) (13) (CD) M Appleby 5 11 1	R Mahon (3)
613	6-15P3	BIN END (28) (CD) P Brennan 6 10 11	R Johnson
614	P055P-	STRUANROOBE (266) P Webber 5 10 9	D O'Regan

BETTING: 3-1 General Ting, 5-1 Trip The Light, 7-1 Minsky Mine, 10-1 Top Wood, Bobcatbilly, Sacrilege, Red Hot Poker, 12-1 Ballybriggan, Snake Charmer, 16-1 others.

DUNLOUGH Bay can add to his vast gains at Lingfield last time by winning Sunday's Fernie Novices' Hurdle at Leicester.

It was difficult not to have been impressed by Paul Webber's chestnut at the Surrey circuit as he routed a fair field by upwards of five lengths.

That victory backed up the favourable impression created at Wincanton on his hurdling debut at Worcester in October, when he finished second behind the Paul Nicholls-trained Wilton Milan.

Dunlough Bay, a former Irish point-to-pointer, is not yet quite the finished article, so Webber will be keen to carry on the good work in this two-and-a-half examination.

Although he is saddled with top weight, the six-year-old gelding is seemingly sharply on the upgrade, especially if the ground is not too demanding.

Glenwood Present can cash in on the hastily arranged decision to stage a 'jumpers' bumper' card at Kempton.

With a rash of recent abandonments compounded by a frosty forecast, the British Horseracing Authority acted on Wednesday by unveiling an all-weather Flat meeting for National Hunt horses.

Trainer Bob Buckler will have been more pleased about this than most as it represents a fair opportunity for Glenwood Present in the

32Red Casino "Jumpers Bumper" National Hunt Flat Race.

The five-year-old chestnut may have been pulled up on his hurdling debut here in October, but Buckler must have seen something on the gallops to risk him in the Champion Bumper on his penultimate start.

Glenwood Present was also pulled up at the Cheltenham Festival, but it was his run before that which gives him a squeak back in Sunbury.

The winning Irish pointer was revitalised in a tongue-tie and kept up an honest gallop to finish third behind Tetlami and Hard To Swallow, who were both considered good enough to contest novice events at last year's Festival.

This does not look anything like the calibre of that hot affair, so a simple replication would give him every chance of getting his career back on track.

Golanova could earlier hold the key to the 32Red Casino Maiden Open National Hunt Flat Race.

The Gary Moore-trained four-year-old hinted at ability on his debut in a Sandown bumper a couple of weeks ago when he finished fourth behind Wychwoods Brook, who looks decent.

Moore's representative unsurprisingly grew a little weary at the finish, but he made up enough ground three furlongs from home to suggest he might grown in stature with a run under his belt.

The Hollinwell has proven

rather adept in these sort of races, and gets the nod in the 32RedBet.com "Jumpers Bumper" National Hunt Flat Race.

Ferdy Murphy's nine-year-old finished runner-up in the Rehearsal Chase last November, but can never quite be relied upon to show a consistent level of form.

That is not the case in these sort of races, though, as he has has won two Southwell heats from as many starts on the all-weather.

Murphy had The Hollinwell entered in four races on this card, so he clearly must have thought long and hard before giving him the go-ahead for this weak-looking assignment.

Border Phoenix looks an interesting runner in the Malcolm Hopkinson Memorial Novices' Hurdle at Carlisle.

The Sandy Forster-trained five-year-old's efforts in an Ayr bumper on November 2 did not go unnoticed by many, and gave a firm indication he could be quite a nice hurdling prospect.

There is an excellent card at Fairyhouse, with Volver La Vedette fancied to banish bad memories of her Navan seasonal debut by winning back-to-back renewals of the Irish Bar One Racing Hatton's Grace Hurdle.

The seriously exciting Champagne Fever can continue his ascent in the Bar One Racing Royal Bond Novice Hurdle, while Dedigout is the shout in the Bar One Racing Drinmore Novice Chase.

SUNDAY'S CARD CARLISLE

Going: Heavy (Inspection Saturday)

12.40 MALCOLM HOPKINSON MEMORIAL NOVICES' HURDLE (CLASS 4). £5,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m 1f Penalty Value £3,249.

1	2	BORDER PHOENIX (29) Miss S Forster 5 10 12	C P Geoghegan (3)
2	000	GUMND (IRE) (16) C Grant 5 10 12	A Coleman
3	500	JACK ALBERT (IRE) (11) Mrs D Sayer 5 10 12	B Harding
4	3-32	MOSCOW PRESENTS (IRE) (45) D McCain 4 10 12	J Maguire
5	P63500	ONE IN A ROW (IRE) (16) A Whillans 5 10 12	E Whillans (3)
6	U5-P	THATCHERITE (IRE) (19) Mrs D Sayer 4 10 12	J Reveley
7	0P	THATWASTHENSION (IRE) (128) B Storey 6 10 12	B Hughes
8	0	HIGH FAIR (61) Miss S Forster 6 10 5	G Rutherford (5)

BETTING: 8-11 Moscow Presents, 9-4 Border Phoenix, 7-1 Jack Albert, 25-1 Thatcherite, Thatwasthension, 33-1 High Fair, One In A Row, 50-1 Gumd.

1.10 CARLISLE RACECOURSE ANNUAL MEMBERS NOVICES' CHASE (CLASS 3). £8,700 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £5,653.

1	2112-1	STORMY WEATHER (FR) (15) (D) B Ellison 6 11 5	A Coleman
2	0251-2	GRANVILLE ISLAND (IRE) (212) (D) Jennie Candlish 5 11 0	A O'Keefe
3	04P-3	MANNERED (582) J Wade 7 11 0	J Dawson (7)
4	321F-4	RAPIDOLYTE DE LADAKLA (214) S Shirley-Beavan 7 11 0	F Keniry
5	1116-1	TAP NIGHT (USA) (29) (C)D) Miss L Russell 5 11 0	A P McCoy
6	11050-	VIVA COLONIA (IRE) (351) D O'Meara 7 11 0	T J Murphy
7	051-P	UN GUET APENS (FR) (29) (D) J Ewart 4 10 8	B Hughes

BETTING: 6-4 Tap Night, 3-1 Stormy Weather, 7-2 Viva Colonia, 13-2 Granville Island, 12-1 Un Guet Apens, 20-1 Rapidolyte De Ladakla, 50-1 Mannered.

SUNDAY'S TIPS

CARLISLE: 12.40 Border Phoenix, 1.10 Granville Island, 1.40 Highland Rain, 2.15 My Boy Paddy, 2.45 Lifetime, 3.20 Livvy Inn

FAIRYHOUSE: 12.35 Our Conor, 1.05 Champagne Fever, 1.35 Dedigout, 2.05 Our Girl Salley, 2.40 Volver La Vedette, 3.10 Ardglenn, 3.40 Outlander

KEMPTON: 1.30 Golanova, 2.00 Definitely Glad, 2.35 Malham, 3.05 Glenwood Present, 3.35 Five Rivers, 4.05 The Hollinwell

LEICESTER: 12.50 DUNLOUGH BAY (NAP), 1.20 Reaction, 1.50 Plum Pudding, 2.25 Tara Rose, 2.55 Thorncliffer, 3.30 Trip The Light

DOUBLE: Dunlough Bay and Glenwood Present.

1.40 BRITISH STALLION STUDS SUPPORTING BRITISH RACING E.B.F. 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS 4). £5,000 added 4 to 6YO 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £3,249.

1	112-12	GREEN FLAG (IRE) (22) (BF) Miss L Russell 5 11 5	P Buchanan
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2	PUI-44	FORTY CROWN (IRE) (20) J Wade 6 10 12	K Renwick
3	4315-5	GONOW (19) M Hammond 4 10 12	J Collier (7)
4	0	HERE'S TO HARRY (29) N Alexander 5 10 12	Lucy Alexander (3)
5	6-04	HIGHLAND RAIN (30) Jennie Candlish 4 10 12	A O'Keefe
6	F-15	MOUNT HOPE (IRE) (34) D McCain 5 10 12	J Maguire
7	0	ONLY CLINT (29) R M Smith 4 10 12	Mr C Bewley (7)
8	0	RUNNING BROOK (IRE) (23) R M Smith 5 10 12	E Whillans (3)
9	1/0	SORCIER (FR) (23) S Shirley-Beavan 6 10 12	F Keniry
10	00-00	YINFORTHEROAD (IRE) (38) D Whillans 5 10 12	C Whillans (5)

BETTING: 11-8 Green Flag, 3-1 Mount Hope, 4-1 Forty Crown, 8-1 Gonow, 12-1 Here's To Harry, 20-1 Sorcier, 25-1 Highland Rain, 50-1 Running Brook, Yinforthroad, Only Clint.

2.15 CHRISTMAS PARTIES AT CARLISLE RACECOURSE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 3). £11,000 added 4YO PLUS 3m 2f Penalty Value £7,148.

1	213F-2	VAMIZI (IRE) (38) (C)BF) Miss L Russell 9 11 12	Graham Watters (10)
2	3U13F-	CLASSIC CUT (746) (D) J Ewart 8 11 9	B Hughes
3	203-41	COOL OPERATOR (30) (C) P Kirby 9 11 9	A Nicol (7)
4	P31P-5	MY BOY PADDY (IRE) (28) N Twiston-Davies 8 11 7	A Wedge (3)
5	4P0-44	LOCKSTOWN (22) (D) Mrs A Hamilton 9 11 6	K Renwick
6	216-05	DONT TELL SAILOR (IRE) (32) Jennie Candlish 6 11 4	A O'Keefe
7	1151PU	CAVERS GLEN (22) (C) A Whillans 10 11 4	B Harding
8	41F-14	TIPSY DARA (IRE) (20) (BF) N Alexander 8 10 2	Lucy Alexander (3)

BETTING: 5-2 Cool Operator, 3-1 Vamizi, 6-1 Tipsy Dara, 7-1 My Boy Paddy, Classic Cut, 10-1 Dont Tell Sailor, 12-1 Lockstown, Cavers Glen.

2.45 HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO DALE AXEL FOWLER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 4). £5,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m 1f Penalty Value £3,249.

1	4-3	LIFETIME (IRE) (F33) (BF) B Ellison 4 11 12	A Coleman
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2	-0F110	CLAUDE CARTER (23) (D) A Whillans 8 11 11	C Whillans (5)
3	1652-P	SIR TANTALLUS HAWK (199) (D) A Whillans 8 11 11	E Whillans (3)
4	312223	PEAKS OF FIRE (IRE) (31) Miss J Foster 5 11 10	Samantha Drake (7)
5	21P0-U	GRAN TORINO (IRE) (32) E Williams 7 11 9	P Moloney
6	16-235	ANITOPIA (29) (D) Miss L Perratt 7 11 6	B Hughes
7	-40601	KNIGHT VALLIANT (38) (C) Mrs B Butterworth 9 10 13	Miss E Butterworth (7)

BETTING: 7-2 Knight Valliant, 5-1 Peaks Of Fire, 6-1 Pertuis, 13-2 Lifetime, Antopia, 8-1 Sir Tantallus Hawk, Goodluckin Lucy, 12-1 Gran Torino, Claude Carter, 33-1 others.

3.20 TIME-ORDER RACECARDS IN THE RACING PLUS AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 5). £3,300 added 4YO PLUS 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £2,059.

1	30-U4P	SAVILLE ROW (IRE) (87) A Crook 7 11 12	Mr Darren Costello (7)
2	50P321	LIVVY INN (USA) (23) Miss L Russell 5 11 10	Miss C Walton (3)
3	7312P-	NEWDANE DANCER (IRE) (482) Mrs D Sayer 5 11 10	Miss E Sayer
4	420-03	FUNKY MONKEY (28) A Whillans 7 10 0	Mr C McCormack (7)
5	-4240P	ONIZ TIPTOES (IRE) (101) J Wainwright 11 11 0	Mr D Levey (7)
6	300000	WESTERN BOUND (IRE) (15) Mrs B Butterworth 11 10 13	Miss E Butterworth (7)
7	203306	FRONT RANK (IRE) (10) (C) Mrs D Sayer 12 10 7	Mr R Lindsay (7)
8	30-643	SOU ANGEL (23) (D) Miss S Forster 8 10 3	Mr C Bewley (7)
9	06P0-U	JAN SMUTS (IRE) (F33) W Sayer 4 10 0	Miss S M Doolan (7)
10	0-5045	CIGALAS (56) Mrs J McGregor 7 10 0	Miss A McGregor (7)
11	400505	DANIEL'S DREAM (23) J E Dixon 12 10 0	Mr J Dixon (7)
12	P00-PP	CLARESBURN (186) S Corbett 8 10 0	Mr J Corbett (7)

BETTING: 6-4 Livvy Inn, 7-2 Funky Monkey, 5-1 Newdane Dancer, 10-1 Soul Angel, Oniz Tiptoes, 12-1 Front Rank, 14-1 Saville Row, 16-1 Jan Smuts, 33-1 others.



Horse Racing

SUNDAY'S CARD KEMPTON

Going: Standard to Slow	
1.30	32RED CASINO MAIDEN OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS 6). £3,000 added 4 to 6YO 2m Penalty Value £1,949.
1	30- AMALRIC (FR) (360) (BF) Mrs A Murphy 5 11 0 A Tinkler
2	EBONY STORM (53) H Haynes 5 11 0 Mr N De Boenville (7)
3	30- FOXCUB (IRE) (30) T Symonds 4 11 0 F de Giles
4	4- GOLANVA (22) G L Moore 4 11 0 Joshua Moore (3)
5	2-3 HENRYVILLE (29) H Fry 4 11 0 N Fahily
6	0- I'M NOT TELLING (IRE) (33) J G Cann 4 11 0 D Costello
7	330- ICANSEECLEARLYNOW (336) N Chance 4 11 0 J McGrath (5)
8	0- NO BUTS (280) Mrs A Brooks 4 11 0 C Poste
9	5- PRYDE ROCK (205) (BF) N Henderson 5 11 0 E Linehan (7)
10	0-0 SIBLING RIVALRY (52) S Gollings 4 11 0 P Bohan (7)
11	4- SOLVANTE SIX (280) A King 4 11 0 R Thornton
12	4- SOLVANTE (FR) N Henderson 4 11 0 C Wallie (5)
13	WARDEN HILL (IRE) M Channon 4 11 0 D Elsworth

BETTING: 3-1 Henryville, 4-1 Pryde Rock, 9-2 Golanova, 6-1 Solvante Six, 10-1 Tradewinds, Warden Hill, 12-1 Icanseeclearlynow, 14-1 Amalric, 16-1 others.

2.00	32RED.COM MARES' INTERMEDIATE OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS 6). £3,000 added 4 to 6YO 2m Penalty Value £1,949.
1	BELUGA BISCUIT T Clement 4 10 12 R T Dunne (3)

2	BORACHA (IRE) J W Mullins 4 10 12 R Thornton
3	3 DEFINITELY GLAD (IRE) (158) P Webber 5 10 12 D Elsworth
4	ELUSIVE Miss A Stokell 6 10 12 P Bohan (7)
5	FREE THINKING N Henderson 4 10 12 Mr S Waley-Cohen (5)
6	MAGIC MONEY K Bailey 4 10 12 E Cookson (5)
7	ROLLING DOUGH (IRE) Mrs S Leech 4 10 12 James Best (5)
8	6-5 SHINE IN TIME (IRE) (203) Mrs L Mongan 4 10 12 T Cannon (3)

BETTING: 5-6 Free Thinking, 5-1 Definitely Glad, 11-2 Magic Money, 8-1 Boracha, 14-1 Rolling Dough, 20-1 Shine In Time, 25-1 Elusive, Beluga Biscuit.

2.35	32RED 'JUMPERS' BUMPER' NH FLAT RACE (CLASS 4). £6,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £3,899.
1	236-12 MAKARI (20) (D)(BF) N Henderson 5 11 0 A Tinkler
2	/504P- ORSM (224) Mrs L Mongan 5 11 0 T Cannon (3)
3	-21122 PURE STYLE (IRE) (31) (D) C Longsdon 4 11 0 N Fahily
4	303-4P QUOUSKO DE L'ISOP (FR) (22) (D) A Hobbs 8 11 0 C Huxley
5	0-320 SIRIUS CHESNUT (17) K Bailey 4 11 0 E Cookson (5)
6	45P-05 SYNDICATION (IRE) (14) (D) Miss V Williams 5 11 0 S Thomas

BETTING: 13-8 Makari, 2-1 Pure Style, 4-1 Quousko De L'isop, 10-1 Sirius Chesnut, Syndication, 25-1 Orsm.

3.05	32RED CASINO 'JUMPERS' BUMPER' NH FLAT RACE (CLASS 4). £6,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £3,899.
1	63P-02 COLD KNIGHT (31) A King 6 11 0 R Thornton
2	4130-3 COUSIN KHEE (36) (D) H Morrison 5 11 0 D Costello
3	/0011- FEATHERINTHEATRIC (IRE) (238) (D) W Greatrex 7 11 0 W Hutchinson
4	P03P-3 GLENWOOD PRESENT (IRE) (42) R Buckler 5 11 0 G Hawkins (3)
5	4-3P0P LAVEROQUE (FR) (29) (D) C Longsdon 6 11 0 N Fahily
6	1142-0 MISTER DILLON (43) (D) N Henderson 5 11 0 J McGrath (5)
7	61-3P1 NETHER STREAM (IRE) (97) (D) A Hobbs 8 11 0 C Huxley
8	054-10 UBALDO DES MENHIES (FR) (27) O Sherwood 4 11 0 D Elsworth
9	P5-450 ACCORDINGTOELEEN (IRE) (53) F O'Brien 7 10 7 Mr C P Shoemark (7)

BETTING: 11-4 Cousin Khee, 3-1 Featherintheatric, 4-1 Mister Dillon, 7-1 Nether Stream, 8-1 Cold Knight, 10-1 Ubaldo Des Menhies, 16-1 Accordingtoeleen, Laverogue, 33-1 Glenwood Present.

3.35	32REDPOKER.COM 'JUMPERS' BUMPER' NH FLAT RACE (CLASS 4). £6,000 added 5YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £3,899.
1	210-32 CROSS OF HONOUR (IR) (37) C Longsdon 5 11 0 N Fahily
2	15430-0 FATHER SHINE (IRE) (16) S A Harris 9 11 0 P Bohan (7)
3	2210-3 FIVE RIVERS (IRE) (28) W Greatrex 6 11 0 W Hutchinson

4	-32511 LIKEAROLLINGSTONE (IRE) (10) S Curran 7 11 0 Sean Fox
5	121P-0 MUSH MIR (IRE) (27) N Henderson 5 11 0 J McGrath (5)
6	020626 PEPTO COLLOGENES (FR) (192) Mrs L Mongan 9 11 0 T Cannon (3)
7	32521-1 UNFORGETTABLE (IRE) (237) (D) R Dickinson 9 11 0 B Poste (7)
8	34-106 UNWANTED GIFT (IRE) (31) (D)(BF) A Hobbs 7 11 0 C Huxley

BETTING: 3-1 Cross Of Honour, 7-2 Mush Mir, 9-2 Five Rivers, 5-1 Likearollingstone, 11-2 Unforgettable, 10-1 Unwanted Gift, 16-1 Father Shine, 25-1 Pepto Collogenes.

4.05	32REDBET.COM 'JUMPERS' BUMPER' NH FLAT RACE (CLASS 4). £6,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value £3,899.
1	53-P00 BAJAN SUNSHINE (IRE) (12) (D) C Dryer 11 11 0 C Bolger
2	1623-4 BRUNSWICK GOLD (IRE) (192) (BF) S Gollings 7 11 0 P Bohan (7)
3	5P-15P CITY PRESS (IRE) (21) W Greatrex 6 11 0 W Hutchinson
4	201-33 DAWN COMMANDER (GER) (35) C Longsdon 5 11 0 N Fahily
5	553P-P JETNOVA (IRE) (29) (BF) A King 7 11 0 R Thornton
6	10-325 KILMACOWEN (IRE) (47) F O'Brien 6 11 0 A P Cawley
7	2230-6 REPRESENTINGCELTIC (IRE) (29) P Phelan 7 11 0 Paddy Bradley (10)
8	111-FP RINGA BAY (184) R H York 7 11 0 Mr P York (5)
9	/0P033 SEA CADET (27) Mrs L Mongan 10 11 0 T Cannon (3)
10	0-P306 THE HOLLINWELL (29) (D) F Murphy 9 11 0 J Winston (7)
11	2240-0 WINSTON CHURCHILL (IRE) (462) Mrs S Leech 6 11 0 R McLernon

BETTING: 7-2 Jethova, 4-1 Kilmacowen, 5-1 Dawn Commander, 6-1 The Hollinwell, Brunswick Gold, 10-1 Ringa Bay, 12-1 City Press, 14-1 Winston Churchill, Representingceltic, 25-1 others.

SUNDAY'S CARD FAIRYHOUSE

Going: Soft-Heavy in places	
12.35	BAR ONE RACING JUVENILE 3-Y-0 HURDLE (GRADE 3). £22,917 added 3YO only 2m Penalty Value EUR17900.
1	21 BROG DEAS (IRE) (28) (D) P J Flynn 10 9 Andrew J McNamara
2	1 OUR CONOR (IRE) (21) (D) D T Hughes 10 9 B J Cooper
3	U1 SOUTH SOUTH WEST (IRE) (F51) (D) P J Flynn 10 9 P Townend
4	31 STOCKTONS WING (IRE) (30) (D) Charles O'Brien 10 9 M P Walsh
5	52 DAYRINA (IRE) (15) D McDonogh 10 2 D Condon

BETTING: 11-8 Our Conor, 2-1 Brog Deas, 5-1 South South West, 13-2 Stocktons Wing, 10-1 Dayrina.

1.05	BAR ONE RACING ROYAL BOND NOVICE HURDLE (GRADE 1). £62,500 added 4YO PLUS 2m Penalty Value EUR48800.
1	2111-1 CHAMPAGNE FEVER (IRE) (14) (CD) W P Mullins 5 11 10 R Walsh
2	1100-1 CLONBANAN LAD (IRE) (32) (D) H de Bromhead 6 11 10 A E Lynch
3	110-11 JEZKI (IRE) (22) (D) Mrs J Harrington 4 11 7 B J Geraghty
4	20- MIDNIGHT OIL (281) W P Mullins 4 11 7 D N Russell
5	2-1 MINSK (IRE) (15) D T Hughes 4 11 7 B J Cooper
6	312221 ZUZKA (IRE) (49) (D) W P Mullins 5 11 3 P Townend

BETTING: 5-4 Champagne Fever, 3-1 Minsk, Jezki, 10-1 Clonbanan Lad, 12-1 Zuzka, 25-1 Midnight Oil.

1.35	BAR ONE RACING DRINMORE NOVICE CHASE (GRADE 1). £62,500 added 4YO PLUS 2m 4f Penalty Value EUR48800.
1	1241/1 ARVKA LIGEONNIERE (FR) (37) (CD) W P Mullins 7 11 10 R Walsh
2	111-1 BUCKERS BRIDGE (IRE) (202) (D) H de Bromhead 6 11 10 A E Lynch
3	1311-1 DEDIGOUT (IRE) (26) (C)(D) A J Martin 6 11 10 D N Russell
4	201111 PRIDE OF THE ARTIC (IRE) (56) (D) Peter Fahey 7 11 10 A D Leigh
5	406-21 TEXAS JACK (IRE) (22) (CD) N Meade 6 11 10 P Carberry

BETTING: 11-8 Dedigout, 11-4 Arvika Ligeonniere, 7-2 Buckers Bridge, 8-1 Texas Jack, Pride Of The Artic.

2.05	IRISH STALLION FARMS E.B.F. MARES HANDICAP CHASE. £25,000 added 4YO PLUS 2m 4f Penalty Value EUR19500.
1	2542-2 SHOP DJ (IRE) (196) (BF) Peter Fahey 7 11 10 A P Crowe
2	316-52 QUARRYVALE (IRE) (24) (D) J J Mangnan 8 11 3 P F Mangnan
3	305-22 OUR GIRL SALLEY (IRE) (17) (CD) Mrs P Dobbs 7 11 1 B J Geraghty
4	1261-0 GLIBIN (IRE) (17) C Bowe 7 11 0 Andrew J McNamara
5	P-0613 AVONDOH LADY (IRE) (17) (D) David Fenton 7 10 13 M Enright (5)
6	-054P4 CLOUGHMILLE (IRE) (21) (CD) M Hourigan 9 10 9 Mr T M O'Brien (7)
7	245-23 MISS PEPPERPOT (IRE) (34) (D) F Flood 8 10 8 B T O'Connell
8	-0242 OSCARS BUSINESS (IRE) (26) (R) Robert Tyrner 8 10 8 A E Lynch
9	015F-0 QUIET THOUGHT (IRE) (19) E J O'Grady 6 10 8 P Townend
10	003526 KYLES KRISTLE (IRE) (14) (D) Denis Hogan 8 10 3 D G Hogan
11	2F0122 RISING TIME (IRE) (36) (C) Paul Nolan 6 11 3 B J Cooper

BETTING: 7-2 Our Girl Salley, 5-1 Shop Dj, Rising Time, 6-1 Quarryvale, Oscars Business, 7-1 Miss Pepperpot, 10-1 Avondoh Lady, Cloughmille, 12-1 others.

2.40	BAR ONE RACING HATTON'S GRACE HURDLE (GRADE 1). £66,667 added 4YO PLUS 2m 4f Penalty Value EUR52000.
1	1113-1 MONKS LAND (IRE) (30) (D) N Meade 5 11 10 P Carberry
2	305-2 C SI C'ETAIT VRAI (FR) (25) D T Hughes 6 11 10 D N Russell
3	61110-0 SO YOUNG (FR) (262) (D) W P Mullins 6 11 10 P Townend
4	102-25 ZAIPOUR (FR) (175) (C)(D) W P Mullins 6 11 10 R Walsh
5	1222-2 VOLER LA VEDETTE (IRE) (21) (CD)(BF) C A Murphy 8 11 3 A E Lynch

BETTING: 5-4 Voler La Vedette, 3-1 Monksland, Zai pour, 6-1 So Young, 16-1 Si C'etait Vrai.

3.10	CAFFEY'S BAR AND RESTAURANT OF BATTERSTOWN HANDICAP CHASE (0-140) (GRADE C). £23,750 added 5YO PLUS 3m 5f Penalty Value EUR18500.
1	P03-34 JADANLI (IRE) (7) (C) P Gilligan 10 11 8 A E Lynch
2	-F4041 ACTION MASTER (44) D T Hughes 6 11 7 B J Cooper
3	330115 OUR VICTORIA (IRE) (17) C Bowe 7 11 7 Andrew J McNamara
4	40-100 DROIIM TOLL (IRE) (28) (CD) D Hassett 10 10 13 P Townend
5	235206 GIVE US A HAND (IRE) (28) J A Berry 10 10 8 R Walsh
6	148215 BANGONFORM (IRE) (28) D E Fitzgerald 8 10 7 B J Geraghty
7	08P111 HIGHDOWNHILL (NZ) (26) N Madden 7 10 7 N P Madden
8	230-33 ARDGLIN (IRE) (37) J Hanlon 8 10 4 D E Mullins
9	-10604 KINGSMOSS (IRE) (29) J J Lambie 7 10 4 E J O'Connell
10	2P3321 TARQUINIUS (FR) (15) G Elliott 9 10 4 D Condon
11	-2U130 MURCHU (IRE) (57) J J Hanlon 6 10 2 M Enright (5)

BETTING: 13-8 Divine Angel, 9-4 Rakitcace, 13-2 Lucy Bee, 10-1 Whiskeymack, 12-1 Maypole Joe, Cerys, 14-1 Refuse To Mambo, 25-1 Honey Haven.

3.30	WOLVERHAMPTON-RACECOURSE.CO.UK HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £3,500 added 3YO PLUS 2m 119yds Penalty Value £2,264.
1	2512-4 PRIORS GOLD (350) (C)(BF) O Pears 5 10 0 T Eaves 2
2	603040 KAZBOW (IR) (38) R Ford 6 9 13 V Santos (7) 3
3	406405 SWINGING JAWA (GER) (10) J Williams 6 9 12 S Donohoe 5
4	3-10014 TARTAN JURA (14) (BF) M Johnston 4 9 12 S De Sousa 6
5	432521 THE CORNISHCOCKNEY (3) (C) J Ryan 3 9 11(Ex) R Winston 7
6	/31-06 AGGLESTONE ROCK (27) P Kirby 7 9 4 Amy Ryan 8
7	060111 ITALIAN RIVIERA (9) (CD) Sir M Prescott 3 9 2 L Morris 3
8	-051442 CTAPPERS (34) M Channon 3 8 9 A Atzeni 1

BETTING: 5-4 Italian Riviera, 9-2 Tartan Jura, 11-2 Clappers, 6-1 The Cornishcockney, 10-1 Priors Gold, 16-1 Agglestone Rock, Swinging Hawk, 20-1 Kazbow.

4.00	STAY AT THE HOLIDAY INN WOLVERHAMPTON NURSERY (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 2YO only 1m 1f Penalty Value £1,704.
1	053 SEWN UP (17) R Hollinshed 9 7 S W Kelly 9
2	054 LYRIC BALLAD (26) H Morrison 9 7 C Catlin 10
3	452120 SPIHEAD (52) J Molnes 9 7 L Morris 5
4	606 BY A WISKA (118) Mrs A Duffield 9 1 J P Sullivan 3
5	0653 CARAMEL SUNDAY (41) R Eddery 9 0 A Atzeni 4
6	600 CLASSY TRICK (USA) (13) R Fahey 8 13 W Carson 8
7	356352 CORTON LAD (5) (BF) K Dalglish 8 13 T Eaves 6
8	004300 MARGUERITE ST JUST (18) Miss O Maylam 8 13 Kirsty Milczarek 11
9	00050 SEE AND BE SEEN (14) S Kirk 8 6 N Mackay 2
10	500 MR VENDMAN (IRE) (25) J Williams 8 4 S Donohoe 7
11	506330 KINGSVILLE (14) M Johnston 8 3 S De Sousa 1

BETTING: 11-4 Corton Lad, 9-2 Caramel Sunday, 5-1 Lyric Ballad, 13-2 Classy Trick, 10-1 Kingsville, Mr Vendman, Sewn Up, 14-1 Spithead, 16-1 others.

4.30	HOTEL & CONFENCING AT WOLVERHAMPTON RACECOURSE NURSERY (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £1,704.
1	446 SUBTLE DIFFERENCE (19) A Balding 9 7 L Morris 4
2	105343 NOT NOW BLONDIE (25) (C) C Dwyer 9 7 A Atzeni 5
3	002 BUBBLY BAILEY (9) (BF) A Bailey 9 6 S De Sousa 3
4	4064 FAFFA (19) T Easterby 9 5 G Gibbons 10
5	450040 EYELINE (25) R Hollinshed 9 5 J Duern (5) 12
6	66566 RED DRAGON (IRE) (51) C Hills 9 4 R Winston 9
7	00030 SHEARIAN (19) A Carroll 9 3 Kirsty Milczarek 7
8	0066 BLAZE OF ENCHANTMENT (USA) (60) N Quinlan 9 3 P Makin 1
9	451400 WINDSOR ROSE (IRE) (18) W Brisbane 9 2 R FitzPatrick 6
10	00005 DARKEST NIGHT (IRE) (12) J Osborne 9 1 S W Kelly 2
11	004304 BALTIC PRINCE (IRE) (33) P Green 8 13 P Sullivan 11
12	0630 TAXIFORMISSBYRON (28) M Herrington 8 13 T Eaves 8

BETTING: 9-2 Faffa, 5-1 Subtle Difference, 11-2 Red Dragon, 6-1 Not Now Blondie, 7-1 Darkest Night, Bubbly Bailey, 10-1 Blazeofenchantment, 16-1 Baltic Prince, Shearian, Taxiformissbyron, 20-1 others.

5.00	BLACK COUNTRY'S ONLY RACECOURSE FILLIES' HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £3,500 added 3YO PLUS 7f Penalty Value £2,386.
1	001500 AVONROSE (27) (CD) D Shaw 5 9 7 S De Sousa 7
2	166003 MORANT BAY (10) (D) Williams 3 9 6 S Donohoe 8
3	3231 EBBLE (62) (D) J Gosden 3 9 4 N Mackay 4
4	264552 DUBIOUS ESCAPEE (IRE) (37) (D) Mrs A Duffield 3 9 4 T Eaves 5
5	522161 BALTI'S SISTER (IRE) (16) (CD) T Clement 3 9 4 R Winston 6
6	1-00 SLEWTOO (59) (D) M W Easterby 3 9 2 G Gibbons 9
7	415000 TENBRIDGE (18) (D) D Hydn Jones 3 9 1 A Atzeni 1
8	430230 TRAVELLING (7) (CD) A Carroll 3 9 1 W Carson 2
9	0-0000 FAIRLIE DINKUM (3) (D) A Crook 4 8 12 R Thomas 3

BETTING: 6-5 Ebbie, 4-1 Balti's Sister, 9-2 Dubious Escapee, 8-1 Morant Bay, 14-1 Travelling, Avonrose, 25-1 Tenbridge, Slewtoo, 33-1 Fairlie Dinkum.

MONDAY'S CARD WOLVERHAMPTON

Going: Standard	
1.25	DOWNLOAD OUR IPHONE APP HANDICAP (AMATEUR RIDERS) (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 3YO PLUS 1m 6f Penalty Value £1,646.
1	033003 SEDGWICK (12) (C) S A Harris 10 11 0 Mr W Featherstone (7) 2
2	4315 CANDELITA (14) J Hughes 5 10 13 Mr F Tett (5) 9
3	203203 HOLDEN EAGLE (28) (C) A Newcombe 7 10 13 Mr F Mitchell (5) 10
4	136113 BUTE STREET (143) (CD) R Hodges 7 10 13 Miss S Brotherton 1
5	02-323 SAINGLED (J13) S Curran 7 10 13 Miss B Hampson (7) 5
6	412601 GOLDMADCHEN (GER) (18) K Dalglish 4 10 12 Mr J Hamilton (5) 6
7	4-5200 RAVI RIVER (IRE) (J20) (C) A Williams 8 10 11 Mr C McCormack 12
8	320544 KAMES PARK (IRE) (12) (CD) R C Guest 10 10 10 Mrs A Guest (7) 5
9	633001 CHOOCKIE HAMILTON (9) (C)(D) K Dalglish 8 10 10 Mr S Walker 13
10	113330 AUGUSTUS JOHN (IRE) (14) (CD) R Brotherton 9 10 9 Mr C Martin (3) 8
11	445304 SHY (83) Mrs K Tutty 7 10 5 Miss P Tutty (5) 7
12	315400 ASTEREALES (12) J Hughes 5 10 5 Miss S Gordon (7) 13
13	400000 BEFORE BRUCE (9) B Powell 5 10 4 Mr J N Pilkington (7) 11

BETTING: 7-2 Goldmadchen, 9-2 Chookie Hamilton, 7-1 Bute Street, 15-2 Saingled, 8-1 Sedgwick, Holden Eagle, Kames Park, 12-1 Candelita, 14-1 others.

1.55	LIKE US ON FACEBOOK WOLVERHAMPTON RACECOURSE HANDICAP (DIV 1) (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £1,704.
1	600013 NOVABRIDGE (69) (CD)(BF) N Mulholland 4 9 7 C P Geoghegan (3) 1
2	004543 GREENHEAD HIGH (9) (CD) D Nicholls 4 9 7 A Nicholls 12
3	-03215 MY METEOR (91) (D)(BF) A Newcombe 5 9 7 C Catlin 8
4	1-20 JUST BREATHE (IRE) (28) (C) Miss O Maylam 3 9 6 Kirsty Milczarek 9
5	036000 COLOURBEARER (IRE) (9) (CD) J Bradley 5 9 5 L Morris 3
6	-0-0002 PASSIONADA (28) (D) D McMahon 3 9 5 R Winston 11
7	501163 IVESTAR (IRE) (13) (D) M W Easterby 7 9 4 G Gibbons 10
8	015345 TRENDING (IRE) (28) (D) J Gask 3 9 3 R Da Silva (3) 6
9	1-2320 CHESTER DEELYTE (IRE) (38) (CD) Mrs L Williamson 4 9 0 Amy Ryan 7
10	401100 SALLY'S SWANSONG (43) (CD) E Alston 6 9 0 S W Kelly 4
11	502040 NINE BEFORE TEN (IRE) (9) C Smith 4 8 13 R FitzPatrick 2

12	14-546 CRI NA MARA (IRE) (128) (CD) M McIliff (IRE) 4 8 7 A Atzeni 5
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2.30	LIKE US ON FACEBOOK WOLVERHAMPTON RACECOURSE HANDICAP (DIV 2) (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £1,704.
1	000005 DESERT STRIKE (95) (C) C Dore 6 9 7 L Morris 11
2	-0-5405 ATLANTIC BEACH (250) (CD) J Bradley 7 9 7 R Winston 10
3	220000 BEFORTYFOUR (24) (D) C Smith 7 9 7 R FitzPatrick 8
4	0-00000 BLOWN IT (SALY) (9) (CD) K Dalglish 6 9 6 S W Kelly 1
5	546500 NO MEAN TRICK (USA) (13) (D) Midgley 6 9 5 R Kennemore 4
6	122324 GRIFFIN POINT (IRE) (47) (CD)(BF) W Muir 5 9 5 S Donohoe 3
7	042221 ANGELO POLIZIANO (24) (CD) A G Foster 6 9 4 T Eaves 9
8	050004 VOLCANIC DUST (IRE) (28) (D) J Bradley 4 9 2 C Catlin 5
9	205400 BALDAIERA (9) (D) T Ethernight 4 9 0 J P Sullivan 2
10	000600 SEXTONS HOUSE (IRE) (19) P McEnte 4 8 13 W Carson 6
11	201500 CHATEAU LOLA (183) (D) D Shaw 3 8 8 S De Sousa 12
12	000603 UNDER PAR (10) (BF) M W Easterby 4 8 7 G Gibbons 7

BETTING: 3-1 Griffin Point, 7-2 Angelo Poliziano, 11-2 Desert Strike, 13-2 Under Par, 10-1 Atlantic Beach, 12-1 No Mean Trick, 14-1 Volcanic Dust, 16-1 Blown It, Sextons House, 20-1 others.

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11 Feb : Warners Holme Lacy 5 day	£295
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11 Feb : Torquay Winter Warmer 5 day	£179
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17 Feb : Grand Duchy of Luxembourg 5 day	£259
17 Feb : Ludlow Winter Warmer 5 day	£259

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Head Boy Jon Wilton & Head Girl Cassie Thompson

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Barclays Premier League

Arsenal	0	Swansea	2
HT 0-0		Michu 88,90	Att 60,098
Fulham	0	Spurs	3
HT 0-0		Sandro 55, Defoe 72,77	Att 25,425
Liverpool	1	SAINTS	0
Agger 43			
HT 1-0		Att 44,525	
Man City	1	Everton	1
Tevez 43 pen		Fellaini 33	Att 47,386
HT 1-1			
Q.P.R.	1	A. Villa	1
Mackie 18		Holman 8	Att 17,387
HT 1-1			
Reading	L	Man Utd	L
HT L-L			
W.B.A.	0	Stoke	1
HT 0-0		Whitehead 75	Att 24,739
West Ham	3	Chelsea	1
Cole 63, Diame 86		Mata 13	
Maiga 90			Att 35,005
HT 0-1			

Barrow	.....	P	Macclesfield	.....	P
Postponed - due to frozen pitch					
Bury	.....	1	Southend	.....	1
Doherty 33 pen			Tornlin 41		
HT 1-1			Att 2,391		
Carlisle	.....	1	CHERRIES	.....	1
Beck 72			Fogden 30, O'Kane 36		
HT 0-2			Pugh 59		
Coventry	.....	2	Morecambe	.....	1
McSheffrey 38 pen			Ellison 77		
Baker 46					Att 6,339
HT 1-0					
Crawley	.....	3	Chelmsford	.....	0
Adams 23, Clarke 41					Att 3,012
Alexander 89 pen					
HT 2-0					
Crewe	.....	0	Burton Albion	.....	1
HT 0-1					Att 3,065
Fleetwood T	.....	2	Aldershot	.....	3
Brown 11			Hylton 19,75		
Ball 88			Vincenti 45		
HT 1-2			Att 1,757		
Harrogate T	.....	1	Hastings Utd	.....	1
Platt 41					Att 2,986
HT 1-0					
Lincoln City	.....	3	Mansfield	.....	3
Power 45,66			Green 21		
Taylor 47			Briscoe 53, Rhoad 90		
HT 1-1			Att 4,127		
Luton	.....	2	Dorchester	.....	1
Gray 30, Lawless 68			Pugh 71		
HT 1-0			Att 3,287		
Oldham	.....	3	Doncaster	.....	1
Wabara 45			Blake 4		
Derbyshire 70,77					Att 2,783
HT 1-1					
Preston	.....	2	Gillingham	.....	0
Monakana 12, Beavon 38					Att 5,271
HT 2-0					
Rotherham	.....	1	Notts Cnty	.....	1
Pringle 42			Arquin 32		
HT 1-1			Att 7,903		
Sheff Utd	.....	2	Port Vale	.....	1
Miller 90,90			Pope 33		
HT 0-1			Att 10,215		
Tranmere	.....	2	Chesterfield	.....	1
Stockton 42, McGuirk 57			Cooper 31		
HT 1-1			Att 3,781		

npower Championship

Bolton	.....	1	Ipswich	.....	2
M Davies 6			Campbell 70 pen, Chopra 90		
HT 1-0			Att 17,208		
Bristol C	.....	1	Wolves	.....	4
Darns 85			Ebanks-Blake 20		
HT 0-4			Doyle 25,41		
Crystal P	.....	3	Brighton	.....	0
Murray 35,54 pen			Sigurdarson 44		
Garvan 71 pen			Att 13,892		
HT 1-0					Att 20,114
Huddersfield	.....	2	Leeds Utd	.....	2
Akinson 12			Tonge 35, Becchio 37,86		
Clayton 43 pen			Norris 70		
HT 2-2			Att 20,372		
Leicester	.....	L	Derby City	.....	L
HT L-L					
Millwall	.....	0	Charlton	.....	0
HT 0-0			Att 18,013		
Nottm For	.....	2	Hull	.....	2
Sharp 43 pen			Koran 34 pen		
HT 1-1			McShane 69		
Peterboro	.....	1	Blackpool	.....	4
Gayle 71			Thomas 51		
HT 0-0			Ince 58 pen,88		
Watford	.....	4	Barnsley	.....	1
Deeney 10,66			Dicko 83		
Yeates 59, Vydra 83 pen			Att 5,633		
HT 1-0			Tudgay 90		
			Att 11,335		

Crystal P	.....	2	Cardiff	.....	2
HT 0-0					Att 12,120
Middlesbrough	.....	1	Blackburn	.....	1
HT 0-1					Att 15,135
Hull	.....	1	Charlton	.....	1
HT 0-1					Att 13,143
Leicester	.....	1	Derby City	.....	1
HT 0-1					Att 11,113
Watford	.....	2	Millwall	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 23,139
Brighton	.....	2	Brighton	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 12,120
Nottm For	.....	2	Leeds Utd	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 14,148
Blackpool	.....	2	Blackburn	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 17,148
Charlton	.....	2	Charlton	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 13,143
Huddersfield	.....	2	Huddersfield	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 12,120
Derby City	.....	2	Derby City	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 12,120
Burnley	.....	2	Burnley	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 15,135
Wolves	.....	2	Wolves	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 13,143
Bolton	.....	2	Bolton	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 15,135
Birmingham	.....	2	Birmingham	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 14,148
Ipswich	.....	2	Ipswich	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 15,135
Barnsley	.....	2	Barnsley	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 13,143
Bristol C	.....	2	Bristol C	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 13,143
Sheff Wed	.....	2	Sheff Wed	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 13,143
Peterboro	.....	2	Peterboro	.....	2
HT 0-2					Att 13,143

FA Cup Second Round

Acc Stanley	.....	3	Oxford Utd	.....	3
Linfield 25			Pittman 12		
Beattie 80			Constable 86		
Molynieux 90			Raynes 90		
HT 1-1			Att 1,195		



FLYING – England's Chris Ashton dives in a try in the 38-21 win over The All Blacks at Twickenham on Saturday.

Clydesdale Bank Premier

Celtic	.....	1	Arbroath	.....	1
Keddie 36 og			Doris 87		
HT 1-0			Att 15,000		
Cowdenbth	.....	P	St Johnstn	.....	P
Postponed - due to frozen pitch					
Forfar	.....	2	Ayr Utd	.....	1
Robertson 59, King 74			Sinclair 16		
HT 0-1			Att 698		
Kilmarnock	.....	2	Queen Sth	.....	1
Sheridan 8			Clark 77		
Perez 69					Att 4,295
HT 1-0					
Livingston	.....	0	Dundee	.....	2
HT 0-2			Millie 9, Conroy 17 pen		
Partick	.....	0	Dunfermline	.....	0
HT 0-1			Blissett 90		
Rath	.....	2	Dever vale	.....	1
Graham 55,89			Fraser 58 pen		
HT 0-0			Att 1,439		
Ross Cnty	.....	3	Inverness CT	.....	3
Quinn 49, Vigurs 86			McKay 30		
Brittain 90			Foran 74,90		
HT 0-1			Att 5,077		
St Mirren	.....	2	Brechin	.....	0
McLean 32, Robertson 42					Att 2,363
HT 2-0					
Stenhsmuir	.....	0	Falkirk	.....	1
HT 0-1			Duffie 9		
Stranraer	.....	0	Dundee Utd	.....	5
HT 0-1			Russell 13,27,69		
HT 0-3			Daly 40,61		
			Att 1,220		

Grey panels indicate High-scoring games

Local non-league results

BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE South:

Bath City 2 Eastbourne Borough 2
Billericay 1 Dover 2
Boreham Wood 0 Weston-S-Mare 1
Eastleigh 1 Welling 3
Havant & Waterlooville 1 Bromley 2
Hayes & Yeading 1 AFC Hornchurch 3
Maidenhead 0 Salisbury 1 Staines 1 Sutton 4
Truro 2 Tonbridge Angels 0

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE Premier

Arlesey 4 St Neots 3
Barwell 1 Bideford 1
Bashley 2 St Albans 0
Bedford 0 Weymouth 2
Bedworth 1 Frome 0
Cambridge City 2 Stourbridge 2
Chesham 3 Banbury 1
Chippingham 3 Kettering 0
Gosport Borough 0 Hitchin 0
Hemel Hempstead 4 Redditch 0
Leamington 2 AFC Totton 1

Division One South & West

Abingdon Utd 3 Clevedon 1
Cinderford 1 Shortwood 2
Cirencester 1 Paulton Rovers 3
Didcot 0 Bridgwater 2
North Leigh 1 Evesham 3
Swindon Supermarine 3 Mangotsfield 1
Taunton 2 Sholing 2
Tiverton Town 1 Poole Town 3
Wimborne 1 Hungerford 3
Yate 1 Bishops Cleeve 1

SYDENHAMS LEAGUE Premier Division

Alton 1 Bournemouth Poppies 4
Fareham 1 Alresford 0
Fawley AFC 0 Downton 5
GEHumble 2 Lymington Town 1
Hayling Utd pp Blackfield & Langley
Moneyfields 2 Verwood 0
New Milton 1 AFC Portchester 3
Newport loW 1 Hamworthy Utd 0
Totter & Elng 5 Hordean 3

Division One

East Cowes Vics 0 Brockenhurst 2
Fleet Spurs 4 Petersfield 3
Laverstock & Ford 1 Amesbury 0
Pewsey Vale 1 US Portsmouth 1
Stockbridge 6 Hythe & Diden 1
Team Solent 2 Ringwood Town 1
PUMA ENGINEERING HANTS PREMIER LEAGUE

AFC Aldersham 2 University of Portsmouth 1

Fleetlands 2 Liphook 0
Hamble Club 1 Paulsgrove 3
Locks Heath 5 Sporting BW 2
Otterbourne 3 Winchester Castle 2
OK Southampton 2 Clarendon 8
Combination

Bournemouth Sports 1 Fleetlands 3

Clanfield 0 AFC Stoneham 3
Liphook Utd pp Aldermaston
Overton v Hamble Club
Paulsgrove 1 Otterbourne 1
Sporting BW 2 Liss Athletic 1
Winchester Castle 0 Locks Heath 5

MAGNATA CARE HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE 2004

Crusaders 1 Andover Lions 1
Four Marks 8 Dursley 0
HAMPSHIRE INTERMEDIATE CUP Third round
AFC Stoneham 1 Baffins Milton Rovers 2
Broughton 3 Lyndhurst 3 ast (Lynd 7-6 pens)
Colden Common 4 West Wight 1
Hedge End Rangers 1 Upham 2

Liss Athletic 3 GE Hamble Res 4 ast

Mudford Meads 1 Mew Milton Res 2
Netley Central Sports pp Bournemouth Sports
Richmond Park CC 4 Fleet Town Res 1
Southampton University 3 Christchurch Res 0
Wymering 1 Infinity 3

Nursing 0 Forest Town 4

Brading town 3 BTC Soton 2
Hedley 2 Bush Hill 5
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE Prem Division
AFC Totton 2 Winchester City 4
Sholing 2 AFC Portchester 0
Division One West

Hythe & Diden

East Cowes Vics 3
Lymington Town 0 Laverstock & Ford 4
WL Challenge Shield
Group C: Ringwood pp Hayling Utd
Romsey Town 2 Team Solent 3
Group D: US Portsmouth 2 Fawley AFC 2
Verwood 1 Alresford 5

Group E: Blackfield & Langley 3 Alton 2

Hordean 3 Petersfield 1
DREW SMITH SOUTHAMPTON LEAGUE
TrophyMan Senior League Cup
Comrades 7 Burridge AFC 2
Questmap 3 White Horse 0

Premier

AFC Hittingbury 4 White Star Wombles 1
Cadnam United 10 Bishopstoke WMC 1
Senior 1
Dursley Res 1 East Boldre 10
Nursing 1 Totton Energy 7

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